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## Some Present-day Problems of Book Selections\*

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A mustard-seed, says Hornbye, is the least of all seeds and yet it becomes a great tree and of large value. Even so, from the smallest of beginnings has developed the varied and abundant children's literature of today. What a feast is spread for modern boys and girls—delightful picture-books, enchanting fairy tales, "fables and balades, sad, mery and brave," stories of thrilling adventure, scientific, technical, and "how to make" books, even encyclopedias especially prepared for their convenience and use! Contrast for a moment the condition of the Puritan child of the seventeenth century provided with those edifying accounts of most exemplary babies of two and three who savingly understood the mysteries of the redemption, and died joyfully at an early age. A hundred years later, and the moral always treads close upon one's heels. Day's "Sandford and Merton" in spite of its encyclopedic lore and the Socratic interrogatories of Mr Barlow, that flawless instructor of youth, was regarded, we learn, with enthusiasm; and even Mary Wollstonecraft's priggish little stories "with conversation calculated to regulate the affections and the mind to truth and goodness," went into a second edition—a sure indication of the dearth of suitable children's books. Even in the first half of the nineteenth century, the idolatry of teaching still predominated, and moral and didactic stories, religious

tales of ministering children, in which pious slaughter was often the chief ingredient, conversations on natural philosophy, "chronological records of history, and travels as dry as a road book" abounded.

But there were compensations in earlier days, at least for the more bookish children in cultured families. They read Plutarch abundantly; they were acquainted with Shakespeare and Milton; they browsed among the histories and ponderous folios provided for their elders. And the great number of modern children's books is by no means an unmitigated blessing. There is much variety of company among them, ranging from the best to the worst, and when we contemplate some of these "mischievous combinations of the alphabet" doubts assail and at times, prevail. Disregarding those really pernicious which are unlikely to find their way into libraries, it is quite possible that too large a diet, even of supposedly harmless books, may tend to suppress mental growth instead of encouraging it, and there is a lurking fear that sometimes we may be leveling down as well as up. There is no lack of good books, there are more, indeed, than ever before, "an endless fountain of immortal drink"; but there is an ever-present danger that some of the more deserving may be swept away, inundated, lost sight of, in the "weak, washy, everlasting flood" of the worthless.

A library cannot buy all that are published, even if it were desirable. Even selected lists contain many more titles

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\*Presented in the Children's librarian's section, Swampscott meeting.

than the average children's room needs. But to select wisely and well, to expend the public funds entrusted to us most advantageously, in terms of use and results, involves an understanding of children and their reading tastes, a comparison of books in the same class, and a study of the community and its especial needs, for, to use the language of salesmanship, one cannot sell anything properly and permanently without a complete knowledge of his product and the consumer's need of it. It is not necessary to be hopelessly Olympian in attitude—sympathy, methinks, should have some little share in the reviewer's qualifications—but no book ought to be included in a library collection without a definite knowledge of its content and treatment, its relations to other books, and its value for one's own library. Careful personal examination is the only sure test and one may well take to heart the old advice, "Judge not too rashly, till thru all you look"; but, apart from the larger centers, books are not always obtainable before purchase, and, except for a few of the more important, there is little reliable criticism. Book reviews too frequently are but variations upon the publishers' announcements, and the best books for our purpose are not always those most widely advertised.

Not only are there many books from which to choose, and oftentimes many editions of the same book, but the process of selection is made still more difficult by limitations of time and staff, and present economic conditions. Owing to the increased cost of production the price, not only of new children's books, but of the older ones as well, has been steadily rising in the last few years, while the length of a book's service is, in many cases, materially shortened by the poor quality of the paper used and the weak binding. If the money available for juvenile books has not been increased in the same ratio, it means reduced purchase at a time when old collections, which have deteriorated thru use, need replenishing, or new additions are imperatively needed for wider development. Moreover, because of the

slight popular demand, many books generally used in libraries are being dropped from the publishers' lists. About 50 per cent of the titles in some of our recent library orders have been marked "out of print" or "publisher out of." The possibilities for extending the usefulness of the library seem endless, the opportunities greater than ever before; but books and supplies have been increasingly costly and the trained assistants too few in number.

But, however critical the situation, it may not be without its compensatory advantages if it results in a more thorough study of the books which are being used and an analysis of their values—social, moral, educational and literary, for individuals or for groups. Legitimate expenditure is the truest economy; but, with a limited book fund, every unnecessary purchase implies some needed book which we must inevitably do without. By more thoughtful evaluation, higher standards may be established without the sacrifice of any of the reading children of the community, and not only should the newer publications be judged by more exacting tests, but the present seems an opportune time to reevaluate those now in use and to eliminate from our collections the inaccurate and out-of-date books of information and the mediocre stories of the past, needed perhaps at one time, but now beginning to wane in popularity. Such an estimate may be undertaken with more confidence since the method can be experimental. One may compare the relative merits of old and new, watch the reactions of certain books, note the response to different stimuli and the various paths into which the reading leads. While we should not be in undue haste to exchange old lamps for new, previous possession of shelf room should not be nine points of the law in book buying, nor should we automatically continue replacing books long after they have outlived their usefulness or been supplanted by others better adapted for library needs.

Tho there is almost universal agreement as to principles, there is wide divergence in their application to particu-

lar books. No model collection can fit, procrustean fashion, the varying needs of different localities, but could we agree more frequently than we now do, could we duplicate more extensively the better books, a demand would be created sufficient to justify publishers in keeping them in stock, or reprinting if necessary.

The "rapture of the forward view" is essential for continued joy in one's work and this may be ours at the present time, in spite of all difficulties, if we are alive to our opportunities. Not only is the direct contact with children in the library and school of immense importance but the increasing coöperation of parents, book dealers and publishers is opening up a wide field for service. Parents are almost pathetically anxious to have assistance in choosing children's books. The pity is that they sometimes appeal to those who have little or no knowledge of their intrinsic merit and who recommend only the most popular or that which has latest left the press. Indeed, so fair to outward seeming are many of the newer publications that even librarians are sometimes deceived. We can influence for good the trend of book production and distribution only if we cultivate a nicer sense of values ourselves, and unite more wholeheartedly in our support of the best only. If we were less willing to condone the cheap and the shoddy, if we were more quick to recognize real worth and more ready to give it unstinted praise when found, possibly there would be more incentive to authors of ability to enter the field of children's literature.

Some writers of other periods live today only or chiefly thru their children's books. Perrault's odes and his battle of the books with Boileau are well-nigh forgotten, but his fairies have saved him from oblivion. The political economy tales which made Harriet Martineau a literary lion served only her own generation; but Feats on the fird and The Crofton boys are still read and liked. So long as booksellers advertise "The motor maids," "Tom Slade" and the "Charlie Chaplin cartoons" as preëminently suit-

able for children; so long as teachers recommend "Mary Marie" and "Polly of the hospital staff" as desirable gifts for nine year old girls, should we not feel an individual personal responsibility in promoting a better quality of reading and a more discriminating choice of books both for the home and the library?

Among all the books that are excellent, there are numerous undesirable types that persist, and certain tendencies in recent literature that are distinctly alarming; for example, the present day appetite for exaggerated and sensational treatment, not only in story-books but in others as well, the aim being to make an impression on the youthful mind at all costs. Histories are enlivened by imaginative details and conversation invented by the writers; accuracy in scientific books is sometimes sacrificed to popularity; even Bible stories must have striking chapter headings, such as "Under the fifth rib" and "The ambassadors' beards" to attract and arrest the attention. As Pope says:

False eloquence, like the prismatic glass,  
Its gaudy colors spread on ev'ry place;  
The face of nature we no more survey,  
All glares alike, without distinction gay.

It is surely not desirable to give children information which they must later unlearn and, however popular in character and untechnical in treatment, books of fact should keep close to the "eternal verities." They may well be readable, but they should also be accurate and reliable, if they are to be of real service. And is it true that children have such a natural antipathy to facts that they must needs be disguised in fairy tale style even at the risk of being misleading, or else camouflaged by an enveloping story which is neither interesting nor valuable? Is it really necessary to endow birds, insects and animals with human attributes and more than human intelligence in order to interest children in the outdoor life about them? May not a book give a genuine love of nature without being sentimental in attitude or written down in style?—a love for the

Dear common flower, that grows't beside the  
way;  
Fringing the dusty road with harmless gold  
or for the sound of the coming spring  
"which is neither bees, nor falling water,  
nor the wind in tree-tops, but the purring  
of the warm, happy world."

What one thinks, that one tends to become; and for children, prone to hero worship, whose ideals of character and conduct are being formed, nothing can take the place of the old legends, romances and adventures endless, which "make our wish, our power, our thought, a deed, an empire, a possession." There has come, in recent years, a new appreciation of the worth of these old stories for boys and girls; but this recognition itself has proved a source of danger, for many, even of those working with children, have not apparently realized that all are not equally valuable and that much of their merit depends upon their presentation in suitable and adequate literary form. Retold versions have multiplied until today it is quite as necessary and nearly as difficult to discriminate among them as to sift the fine gold from the dross of the new. There is little consideration of the age of the children for whom the material is best adapted or the form of the legend which is most suitable. Each grade of the elementary school has an *Odyssey* of its own and the love romance of Lancelot and Guinevere is adapted to the comprehension of primary pupils. All obstacles to immediate understanding are removed. The "mysterious, fascinating, unknown figures, the shadowy world of romance full of archaic words and but dimly understood images are all swept aside and straightforward common sense is brought to the fore. The imaginative challenge of a new word or of an odd personality is reduced to simple language." The practice has apparently become epidemic. Cooper's tales, Scott's stories, even Uncle Tom's cabin, are rewritten by inferior authors; Marmion and The idylls of the king are retold in "bright readable form" and Mr Stevens has suggested what may be done in the way of con-

densing the shorter poems as well and of transforming the windy way authors have of saying what they mean into plain prose and everyday language. That the tendency is fraught with grave danger, that already it has led to serious abuses, is evident in an examination of many of these books. Shall we then abolish all simplified versions after the summary fashion of the Queen in "Alice's adventures in Wonderland"? If not, where is the limit? At what point is the line to be drawn? The time allotted to me does not permit of discussion, but I venture to suggest, 1), that adaptations should be used only for those classic and mediaeval tales which are of special value for children because of their story interest, moral quality, and association with literature and art, and which, at the same time, offer unusual difficulties as to form and language; and 2), when retold stories seem really needed, that they should be selected with as much discrimination as is shown in the choice of a book with more modern themes; for it is preferable to duplicate the best rather than to provide a large number of varying merit. If the original form is not in all cases vital, a book must at least have merits of its own if it is to be considered an addition to children's literature.

Not only are all the great world classics thus reduced to one-syllable language; but there is the "glad game" which would transform all the fairy tales, myths and legends into modern "happy stories." Undoubtedly these versions are well meant; but good aims do not necessarily make good books. Dramatic quality, literary merit, emotional appeal are disregarded; everything which does not contribute to the joyousness of Fairyland must be cast aside and every suggestion of shadow or tragedy eliminated. Since happiness is to be the keynote of new tales and old alike and nothing sorrowful is to be presented, children can know nothing of sympathy or pity. That these sentiments may atrophy for want of use does not seem to be considered. Life not being, for most of us, a primrose path, possibly this attitude

is a mistaken kindness on the part of the writers. And does the point of view agree with the testimony of those who have told us what they liked to read as children? To quote from one source only: "Whatsoever is terrible and dangerous, or so reported, has an irresistible attraction for the mind, whether of child or man."

Or do children of today prefer these cambric-tea tales to the "Woes of Troy, towers smothering o'er their blaze" or to the

Weird songs of foamy wraith and roaming sail,  
Songs of gaunt wolves, clear icebergs,  
magic brands,  
Enchanted shirts of mail.

It is true that traditional material sometimes contains cruel or barbaric elements that may need to be modified; but why so weaken the tales that they can make no definite impression, or why blur all sense of moral values by refusing to punish the wicked, lest children be pained? Punishments and rewards in real life may not always follow ill deeds or the virtuous with such exemplary swiftness and sureness as in the fairy tale or the moral story; nevertheless every act is sooner or later followed by its natural consequences and children may well learn from their books something of the relations of cause and effect. The lines it may be are rather boldly drawn at times; but, as Mr Crothers says, "Truth is not less true because it is in large print."

To the development of modern illustrative processes in color and half-tone we owe the handsomely illustrated editions of standard and classic stories for boys and girls and the exquisite picture-books of our day, so striking in contrast to the simple, hand-colored toy-books of the early nineteenth century. But among these, too, one must walk warily. One may learn with comparative ease to discriminate between pictures that are technically excellent and those poor in drawing or crude in color; one may distinguish between the suitable and the harmful, or become expert in judging the

tastes of children; but the problem is not always thus simple. Frequently unsuitable or weak text is combined with pictures so alluring that one is "almost persuaded." But from a library viewpoint should illustrations, however fine, be considered an asset if they lead to the reading of an inferior book?

"There are men that will make you books and turn them loose into the world, with as much despatch as they would a dish of fritters"; thus the writing of children's stories, which should be an art, has become a trade; and one may easily become pessimistic in reading the never-ending tales—as many it would seem as the sands upon the seashore—of boy scouts who are never at a loss, whatever the emergency; of heroes who perform impossible feats; of pert, precocious, important, sophisticated girls who always occupy the center of the stage. To adapt a familiar quotation, age cannot alter, nor custom stale their infinite lack of variety. Even when the books are healthy in tone and of irreproachable morals, how many of them meet the minimum literary standards of a library? It is said that at the council of Constance, the emperor Sigismund was corrected for a mistake he had made and he answered, "I am king of the Romans and above grammar." Are the writers of children's books supergrammaticus? Few certainly have any distinction of style; some have no conscience, even for their English, and their work abounds in up-to-the-minute, smart slang, ungrammatical constructions, and incorrect verb forms. Will it not take more than one National Speech Week to eradicate the faults thus inculcated by the example of the heroes and heroines of these story-books? If it is desirable that children be taught to speak correctly; and if the library is, as we claim, an educational agency, should not the language of many of the recent boy scout, school, and athletic stories bar them from our shelves in spite of their subject interest for boys and girls?

Perhaps because poorness of execution is not the only evil with which we

have to contend, there seems to be an increasing tendency to disregard literary form as of little account, at least so far as new books are concerned, and to accept, in this modern welter of the slovenly written, too many which have only the recommendation of a so-called "wholesome tone."

It is said that children care chiefly for narrative and that this should not be sacrificed for style. This may perhaps be granted; but it does not follow that the converse is therefore true and that style must be altogether sacrificed for the sake of the story. Books for boys and girls need to be "full of passion and the picturesque, alive with animating incident"; they must make some appeal to their natural and spontaneous interests. The forcing process is fatal; and we would be but witless shepherds to persist in driving "a flock that thirsts not to a pool disliked." But if the subject is equally interesting, is not the artistic book not only more valuable but often better liked and is this not due partly, at least, to the unconscious effect of the style? Robinson Crusoe is a masterpiece, yet after two hundred years it still continues to be more widely read than any popular treatment of the same theme. There are boys who appreciate Treasure Island in spite of the fact that it is exceptionally well written. One may have one's fill of adventure with Davie Balfour and Quentin Durward as well as with Tom Swift and Henry Ware. It is not fine writing or "elegant English," or long-syllabled words that one requires; but a "seemly respect for the mother-tongue," simplicity and sincerity in expression, the "girdle of self restraint."

The popular series of the present time which children will read without special inducement are not only wholly lacking in literary merit, but they have only a fleeting interest. They are easily and quickly read and they follow each other in such quick succession that they cannot possibly leave any distinct impression on the mind; but books that children read but once are of scant service to them,

and if continued too long surely such reading must finally result in

Dropping buckets into empty wells,  
And growing old in drawing nothing up!

When boys find Cooper slow and Scott a bore, and girls refuse even to look at Miss Edgeworth's or Mrs Ewing's time-honored tales, is it not because of the poor quality of the food to which they have accustomed themselves—a case both of mind- and of soul-malnutrition?

Care is taken to see that children with undernourished bodies are properly fed; but too little thought is given to a well-balanced mental diet, tho at least a minimum number of brain calories, or vitamins, to be metaphorically up-to-date, is essential to mental growth. It is, I believe, a psychological fact that development is due to the constant stimulus of fresh suggestions. If this is true, provision should be made for some literature which will add to the limited experience of boys and girls, lift them beyond the narrow range of daily life, and bring them into the companionship of those whose thoughts are noble, whose deeds an inspiration. It is natural for children to devour books at a pace rather unfavorable for mental digestion; but in addition to those read for amusement, there should be some which have the "element of perpetuity" in them and which may be read over and over again, until they become a part of their thinking selves. Amid the most sordid surroundings, Tom Canty's reading and dreaming about the princely life "wrought such a strong effect upon him that he began to *act* the prince, unconsciously." And what was it that Fiona gained in the search granted her by the old hawker? No material treasure, but a spirit of kinship with her race. "All the old impossible loyalties, the old forgotten heroisms and tenderesses, the songs that were sung long ago, and the tales which were told by the fireside; and the deeds of the men and women of old"—all these became a part of her. The island gave her of its best—its soul.

One cannot, of course, know the de-

gree to which, in an individual child, the inner nature has perceived and assimilated truth, or at what time the seed which has lain dormant may spring into renewed life, or what effect might have been produced, what magic spring touched, had there been at a given time, reading of greater inspirational power than the popular story; but we do know that priceless jewels are not found in ash-heaps, we can judge of the comparative values of different books, and can tell which of them will most probably be of benefit.

This paper is not an argument. No librarian needs to be convinced of the value of books, either for children or grown people. All recognize, too, the fact that if a nation, not merely of readers, but of book-lovers, is to be developed, the only logical place to begin is with the children. The difficulties of influencing the character of the reading done increase immeasurably with maturity. Books are our tools; a right choice is essential to any real or lasting success in children's work; and therefore, tho "in subtleties of speech I am not practised," I do want to enter as strong a plea as possible for more critical study of modern books on the part of children's librarians, for closer adherence to recognised standards of excellence, and more intensive use of those whose value is unquestioned.

A few of the ephemeral type must probably be used for their current interest or to meet the needs of the spasmodic reader or the boys and girls who, like "Huckleberry Finn" did not get started right; but there are degrees even in mediocrity. The books selected should represent the best of their class, they should be restricted to those for which there is a definite need and the total number should be kept in due proportion to other types or classes.

And there is balm in Gilead; for the nucleus of every well-selected collection must still be the age-old tales, the standard poems, fiction and children's stories which have withstood the test of time. What has become of the many books of

amusement and instruction published by the Newberys and their contemporaries? All but Goody Two Shoes, still a household word, are as extinct as the dodo. Where are Mrs Hofland's Daughter of a genius, Mary Elliott's Orphan brothers, Miss Strickland's Moss-house and scores of other titles popular in the early nineteenth century? "Where are the snows of yesteryear?" The names of Castleman, Oliver Optic, even Mayne Reid, prime favorites of yore, are seldom heard nowadays. The popular writers of the present—these, too, will have their day and cease to be. But the books which passing time, rejecting the unworthy and the temporary, has winnowed from the harvest of the years, these remain. They represent a process of natural selection, the survival of the fittest, and these, therefore, are our "must haves."

It is said that a bookseller displayed in one window "Famous books" and in the other "Readable books"; but such a division is not needed in a children's room. We have no place for the classic which everybody praises and nobody reads; and inspection of book orders and records is heartening, for it proves the abiding popularity of *The prince and the pauper*, *The story of a bad boy*, and other standard titles. Careful and persistent search among the new will also be rewarded, perhaps by the discovery of "The boy who knew what the birds said," again by "The treasure of the isle of mist," or, perchance, it may be the delectable tale of Doctor Dolittle and his animal friends.

Search will reveal also plenty of real, not pseudo science—Dallas Lore Sharp's nature readers, Maeterlinck's "Children's life of the bee," and many other good books written about the out-of-doors. There are romantic histories, fascinating as a novel; interesting accounts of epoch-making voyages; and inspirational biographies, such as the exciting adventures of Raphael Pumpelly, the pioneer experiences of John Muir, and the heroine story of the Maid of France who dreamed dreams and saw visions.

For the younger girls there is a generous supply of good old folk tales and modern fairy stories of delicate workmanship and imaginative value by Ruskin, MacDonald, Jean Ingelow, Stockton, and such later writers as Barrie, Padraic Colum and Selma Lagerlöf. They have also realistic stories of child life, simple and natural in character. And if there is a dearth of really good fiction written for older girls may this not be our golden opportunity to introduce them into the society of Margery Vandaleur, Babbie and the little minister, Ramona, Di Vernon, David Copperfield, and others of our own friends, if we have but the courage to refrain from tempting readers with the cheap and the unworthy.

In building up our collection, then, let us supply as generously as funds permit up-to-date books of information and others needed to introduce children to the world problems of today; but let us

hold fast to all that is good in traditional and standard literature, remembering that the right spirit is of greater importance than formal knowledge and that while "instruction does much, inspiration does everything." Let us welcome cordially whatever is truly worthy among the new, but forbear, whatever the pressure, to countenance the weak and trivial and merely commonplace, whether new or old. Let us strive to provide for the individual boy and girl the very best which each is capable of reading at a given time, and in so far as lies within our power, let us help each one of them to lay well the foundations upon which they may erect for themselves their own Joyous Gard, a stronghold in their minds, a fortress of beauty and of joy, where they may "frequent courteous and gentle and knightly company—the company of all who have loved beauty wisely and purely . . . it only needs that we should set about it in earnest" and with understanding hearts.

### Debating Books\*

Nellie E. Parham, librarian, Withers public library, Bloomington, Ill.

This debate deals with individual books and Mr Roden has signified a willingness to say a good word for Mr Strachey's Queen Victoria, Moneypenny's Disraeli, O'Brien's White Shadows and Mystic Isles, and Hamsun's Growth of the soil. He found himself caring not quite so much for Mr Wells' Outlines of history and Main Street. I countered with "The Brimming cup" which was not specially to my liking and Mr Dewey's Reconstruction of philosophy, for which I hold a deep and tender affection, and a willingness to mention favorably Harvey O'Higgins' "The Secret springs." Swinerton's Coquette and Veblen's Engineers and the price system were added and the Disraeli and O'Brien dropped from the list. Any selection would mean the omission of countless books which in our daily work we are bound to consider and concerning which there might be two opinions.

\*Read before Illinois library association, October 13, 1921.

Personally, I have always had a liking for Mr Wells. My acquaintance, beginning with Tono Bungay and the history of Mr Polly has been intermittently renewed thru some of his later novels. My confidence in the trustworthiness of his vision dates back to 1909 when he wrote an article for the *London Times* on Bleriot's Crossing the channel. The paper had asked for an article on "What this means to us." I had a feeling that it meant rather more to Mr Wells than to the majority of the English. Among other things he wrote "It means first of all that the world can not wait for the English. This thing from first to last was made abroad. Over there where the prosperous classes have some regard for education and a respect for science, and secondly, it means that in spite of our fleet, this, from a military point of view is no longer an inaccessible island." He spoke of the lightness and quickness of aeroplanes, their ability to drop things.

"Within a year," he writes, "they will have machines capable of starting from Calais, dropping a hundred pounds of high explosives on London and returning securely for another parcel." It is of "The Outline of History," however, that I am supposed to talk—but I have a reason for my faith in Mr Wells and the article mentioned is one of the things upon which it is founded. In the library at Bloomington, our copies have been continuously on reserve and will be for months to come.

Mr Wells has rightly called his work an outline, the farther we read the more clearly we realize that it's only an outline but a marvelously interesting one, withal, a thing to be read rapidly, so that we may get what the author has set out to show, a picture of the development of civilization as a whole and the relative importance of each era and people.

Beginning volume one, the reader experiences a sort of a shock, a feeling that this is a child's book. In fancy you see a ten-year-old youngster bending over the volume gaining his first picture of the earth's beginnings. It has something of the fascination and ease of a fairy tale. As semi-civilized man appears and society becomes complex a bit of the fairy atmosphere vanishes. There is, too, as we approach our own times, more and more of Mr Wells, but a very fair and honest Mr Wells, who allows himself to be checked up in the foot notes—by *E. B., G. M. and H. J. J.* We grow accustomed to looking for these foot notes and when we find ourselves taking issue with Mr Wells, are sorry that one of the three has not added a note. Mr Wells' own notes, too, are suggestive. Here and there we find "*A good book on this subject, too little known,*" "*For this period read,*" etc., etc., an invitation to go more thoroly into the subjects in which the reader finds himself especially interested.

The author's summing up of the Great War is far and away the most satisfactory one I have read, to be sure it's the only one I have read but that does not alter the fact that it remains far and away the most satisfactory. It is

a masterly summing up of the events in the world's great tragedy.

Mr Wells has written with an idea of picturing the form of state toward which the world is moving. In this coming world state, he sees a common world religion, very much simplified and universalized and better understood; universal education organized upon a scale and of a penetration and quality beyond all present experience—no armies, no navies, and no classes of unemployed people, wealthy or poor. A marvelous improvement in the organization and record of scientific research—a world's political organization that will be really democratic.

Private enterprise will be the servant—a useful, valued, and well rewarded servant, and no longer the robber master of the commonweal. To realize this implies two achievements that seem very difficult to us today—an electoral system and a currency that shall be safeguarded or proof against the contrivance and manipulations of clever, dishonest men. Mr Wells is not looking for a speedy realization of this ideal. His hope lies in the fact that there are in the world today an increasing number of men and women tho he doesn't mention the women, who are striving to see the way clear to bringing about some such condition of affairs. In reading Mr Wells' Outline, I brushed up a good deal of rather rusty information, learned some new things—was not a little entertained—am inspired to do some further historical reading and am comforted to know that there are an increasing number of able-bodied people working for world betterment.

At the Withers library, another non-fiction book upon which reserves are piling up in an alarming manner is Mr Strachey's "Queen Victoria." This is absolutely so satisfactory in diction and content as to leave no possibility of a difference of opinion as to its excellence. It sent Mr Roden off to the

reading of Grevilles' memoirs—to which I did not have access and so I am going to leave our late lamented Queen, as pictured by Mr Strachey to Mr Roden. This is a trial for I loved the book from cover to cover—even the Dedication to Virginia Woolf, whose "The Voyage out" I read last year and liked exceedingly.

I do not believe we would be naturally looking to Harvey O'Higgins—nor to a *Cosmopolitan* serial for a work which is almost pure psychology and which the *Yale Review* pronounces "Of all recent psychoanalytical books the most sound and informing for the non-technical reader. It seems that Dr Reed of Washington, D. C., had once said to Mr O'Higgins that medicine was finding the secret springs of health and the roots of happiness. Mr O'Higgins was anxious to know what these secret springs are—and has recorded the physician's answer in two hundred pages of good understandable newspaper English. To Mr O'Higgins, this story was more interesting than the Arabian nights. It was not merely fantastic, incredible, miraculous. It was scientific and convincing also. It was a new department of human knowledge. And it was more than this. It was the explanation of a thousand mysteries in human character and conduct that had puzzled him as a professional fictionist and an amateur student of social problems. Mr O'Higgins' book is not Freudian—Dr Reed believing that there are complexes other than sexual.

You may remember that a few years ago, in 1919, to be exact, three well-known Columbia professors, Charles Austin Beard, John Dewey and James Harvey Robinson, having counseled together, opened up in New York the new school for social research. They believed that there were a goodly number of men and women who might be glad to continue their studies and could do so more advantageously outside than within a university. It may be, that after many years of academic life,

they, too, were looking forward to freedom from its restraints. The school has proven a success, more than 2000 students having taken advantage of its opportunities. During the coming year this school is offering a course of lectures on mental hygiene, by the leading psychiatrists of the United States, men of international reputation, who will bring before these students, in a scientific way, much of the same material that Mr O'Higgins has given us in everyday journalistic style. You can read the book in a few hours and I believe it's worth more than that amount of time. I tried two of his cures—one on myself, one on a victim. Results, most satisfactory.

Thorstein Veblen's "Engineers and the price system" has proved nearly fatal to me. This summer on the way home from Swampscott I fell into conversation with a quiet, scholarly looking man. Finding I was a librarian he talked shop a bit. Yes, he used public libraries, some—it happened that he had access to a pretty good one—great trouble was that there were a lot of books that people should be reading that never seemed to find their way into public libraries. He didn't know why. He guessed as a usual thing libraries, especially in smaller places, circulated fiction mostly—and it was just as well, better. Fiction, you know, said he, isn't at all what it used to be. It now takes the place once filled by poetry. Why, long ago, you know, even philosophy was written in verse. Now, he continued, fiction is poetry and art, history, and ethics, and philosophy and psychology, it's everything, in fact, except a story. Oh, of course, some of the novelists try to keep a thread of a story on which to string their theories. He supposed librarians had to be pretty conservative—he didn't know whether, as a usual thing, libraries would be buying such a book as Swinnerton's *Nocturne* and H. G. Lawrence's *The lost girl*. Yes, he had read the *Moon Calf* and liked it. Floyd Dell had come to see him once, but he

wasn't sure where he was now. And had I read the *Narrow house*? When he read a novel he liked to read it rather slowly. And how about the drama? Did people read plays very much? Oh, they read *Debureau*, and *Emperor Jones* and *Sacred* and profane love because they were going to see, or had seen, the play. People ought to be educated to read plays as literature. His wife was very interested in the drama and it was thru her that he had learned to appreciate plays. Oh, yes, he went to the theater occasionally—but as a usual thing he stayed at home and read the play and they talked it over when she came home. Maritally, he was rather emancipated.

All this and more of the kind was most interesting but I was anxious to get back to the books that ought to be in a public library and were not there. My friend fought shy of the subject, I think he had mentally taken my measure and had wisely decided to stick to fiction and the drama. However, he did finally hark back to the absentees. He was courteous and careful not to wound. He talked about the new discoveries in the natural sciences—the new theories permeating the social sciences. He seemed to be sort of a traveling exponent of the new knowledge and he hinted that we were carrying upon our shelves, a lot of dead wood that might better be discarded, not because it was uselessly filling space, but because there might be people who would read it who did not know that most of it had been disproven. Yes, he could tell me a number of men who were writing books that to him seemed quite worth reading. And then the porter appeared, saying, "Lady, would you like to be brushed—we are just pulling into Elkhart." "Oh, that was too bad, but if they wouldn't burden me, he had a book or two with him that he had finished that he would be glad to have me take along—I might find them a little dull, but they were the sort of books he had had in mind when he

had said what he did about the books that did not find their way into libraries. Oh, no, not at all, he was quite thru with them. He read that sort of a book rather rapidly, and he hoped I would have a nice vacation. As I walked down the station platform at Elkhart, I was carrying my valise and umbrella in one hand, and in the other, three thin little books: Haldane's Mechanistic theory of life, Veblen's Engineers and the price system, and John Dewey's Reconstruction of philosophy.

After three careful readings of Mr Haldane's book, I understood all of it pretty well except the last chapter. It was easier for me than the other two. It would have been wise to leave Mr Veblen along with Queen Victoria. Since I did not I'm devoting considerable time to his Theory of engineers. Engineers and the price system is a study of our present economic system, its weaknesses, and the possibility of an overturn of the same. He starts out with a discussion of sabotage, a word meaning, a slowing down, a going slow, a withdrawal of efficiency, something practiced by employer and employe alike. It seems that labor literature speaks of capitalistic sabotage just as the capitalistic press refers to sabotage as a thing limited to the vagaries of labor. According to Mr Veblen, the workman who loafers on his job, who strikes, who obstructs production, practices sabotage. So also does the employer who finds it necessary to run on half time, to shut down his plant or to order a lock-out. He is quite within his legal rights in so doing, but it is nevertheless a withdrawal of efficiency.

We find ourselves at the close of the war with a good part of the world very much in need of supplies, food, clothing, shelter, fuel, yet in all countries, production at very much of a standstill. Armies of workmen going idle for want of work—from 3,000,000 to 5,500,000 in the United States. It is not surprising that thoughtful men are

questioning the soundness of our economic system. So long as we produced no more than the capacity of the market, there were no problems of this sort. Improvements in machinery brought about so great an increase in production that a profitable market could not always be found. Profitable prices must be maintained. When this problem arose there seemed but two ways open. To limit the output or lower the price of production. The former was the easier—it called for a combination in trade and the ability to sit tight. It was then that the trusts came in. Then it was, too, that the captains of industry found their time more and more taken up with questions of finance and with less and less time for the management of industrial processes. The working out of this attempt to maintain profitable prices by limiting the output was not altogether happy. It resulted in an output below the needs of the community, below the productive capacity of the industrial system and below what an *intelligent* control of production would have made commercially profitable. So capital called in the technological expert, the productive engineer. A turn was to be taken in seeing what could be done toward reducing the price of production. These trained men have discovered an incredibly wasteful organization of equipment and man power. According to Mr Veblen, the productive engineer is the man who makes the wheels go round. Without him the great mechanical equipment of this country would be so much junk. Not only is he the motive power but in a way he holds a very important financial position, since he answers to the investment banker as to the industrial and commercial soundness of any enterprise that is to be underwritten. They are but servants, and for the most part very willing servants of capital, which still holds the unbroken privilege of financial management, the right to hire and fire, and the final disposition of all industrial forces. According to Mr Veblen, however, this little body of men are in a position to bring

about the fall toward which he feels big business is riding.

Reading this theory of Mr Veblen reminded me of a conversation with a young fellow, just home from a national meeting of these trained technologists. "Miss Parham," said he, "it was a great meeting; there were some wonderful papers and talks. But the funny thing about it is that some of the biggest men there were talking about the right and wrong of things. You would have thought you were at a religious meeting. If a fellow has done a good piece of work, he doesn't care about seeing *anybody* throw a monkey wrench into the machinery, and that's the truth."

The author entertains no fear of the spread of bolshevism in this country, nor the turning over of our government by any organized agency. The I. W. W. is not organized. The A. F. of L., he regards as one of the vested interests as ready as any other to do battle for its margin of privilege and profit, organized for bargaining and not production, officiated by safe and sane politicians and manned by a rank and file intent upon the full dinner pail. These organizations make sabotage easy, but sabotage is not revolutionary. If it were, there is a hint that the United States senate might find itself among revolutionaries.

Should there come an overturn, the four contributing causes, the four *chief* contributing causes will be, first, our unemployment of material resources, equipment and man power; secondly, the ever increasing cost of salesmanship, which in many lines foots up to 10 or 20 times the cost of production; thirdly, the production of superfluous and spurious goods and fourthly, sabotage. The continuation of our economic system, in spite of its weaknesses, has been due and is due to our confidence in business and our belief in absentee ownership, also to the fact that our system for production and distribution is, in a way, still very efficient. Should an overturn of the system come about thru the production engineers, which seems a very remote possibility,

it would have to be only after there had been an extensive campaign of inquiry and publicity, such as will bring the underlying population to a reasonable understanding of what it is all about. Second, there would have to be a solidarity of sentiment among technicians and workmen. A much greater possibility of change rests with the vested interests themselves, the probability of a reluctant but voluntary abdication. I think there are none of us so isolated from capital that we have not heard this sentiment from capitalists themselves.

Main Street and the Brimming cup I read some time ago. More recently, the Growth of the soil and Coquette. I think, professionally, we must all have been not a little concerned about recent novels. I may be quite wrong but it has seemed to me that a good deal of pretty worthless fiction is being recommended—stereotyped as to plot, arid as to thought, slipshod in style, valueless as contributions to thought or to literature, scarcely worth the idle hour of an empty day. Among a number of the more carefully written novels, I have been absolutely appalled at the slight importance accorded to that special sort of morality known as chastity. It looks a bit as tho the freedom achieved by women recently, had in not a few instances, meant the disregard of many of the conventions that we have thought an integral part of morality, even of decency. Was it possible that something had gone wrong with the men and women who were writing fiction? It was plainly to be seen that some of the cheaper things were written with an eye to being filmed, but what of some of these more worth-while things that were so surprising? I don't believe it's the writers. The odds are that they are picturing life pretty much as it is. We have entered on an era of very plain speech.

As to Main street and the Brimming cup—judging from the comments I have heard, the Brimming cup is the

better liked. Personally, I preferred Main street. A good share of my early life was spent in one or another Gopher Prairie, small towns of 200, 600, 3000 inhabitants. Some of them did not have an other side—that other side written of by William Allen White. Many of them have not that "other side" today, no public libraries, no Rotarians, possibly not even Lions or Kiwanis. Reasons for not liking it seem to be that it isn't true. Among comments I have heard—some of these from librarians, that Carol was a fool, that she never got anywhere, that a physician with no more training never could have done the wonderful things, that there was never a town in which there was but one woman who knew anything, that in a year Main street would be as dead as Trilby. Having lived so long in Gopher Prairie, I feel justified in contradicting some of these statements. I honestly have been an honored member of the Thanatopsis, and as I take to cards as well as to poetry, I was at the same time a member of the Jolly Seventeen. At one time I lived for four years in the home of a country physician who was an almost exact replica of Dr Kennicott. The conversation of the men was quite as uninteresting as the talk that Sinclair Lewis chronicles. The Carol whom I know has seemingly much less sense than Carol Kennicott. Her flight was to Paris. She hasn't changed the town, but she, too, is still cherishing her ideals—and that's keeping somewhere if not getting somewhere. Main street is an ugly picture. A lot of people are reading it whether or not they like it. Let us trust that in the long run it may encourage us to tidy up a trifle both architecturally and mentally. The more popular Brimming cup I did not like. To me it was neither art or life. Mrs Fisher holds a brief for child training. She stresses her hobby a bit too much. Given her environment, it is difficult to understand Marise's being so disturbed by the advent of a young man whose chief

attribute was the ability to look right thru you. I couldn't at all sympathize with the soul shattering questions that his coming stirred up. They bored me terribly.

My reading of Mr Swinnerton is limited to *Nocturne* and *Coquette*. I am partial to style. It would be difficult for me to condemn, out of hand, a book which begins: It was Saturday night, a winter night in which the wind hummed thru every draughty crevice between the windows and under the doors and down the chimneys. Outside in the Hornsy road, horse omnibuses rattled by and the shops that were still open at 11 o'clock glistened with light.

*Coquette* is the story of a London shop girl who determines to better her condition, to rise. She is without conscience or morality, without filial affection. Physically unattractive, she studies to improve her personal appearance, ignorant, she goes to night school for two years, clever and painstaking in the shop, a dressmaking establishment in the West End, she gains favor with the fore woman and finally marries her employer's son, while still engaged to a lover in her own class to whom she has unreservedly given herself and whom she still loves. It is from first to last a sordid tale. Sally goes swift and sure to her destruction. The husband, an honest, weak, pitiful figure thruout, is killed by the lover who, in turn, meets death in his attempted getaway, and Sally, not yet 20, dishonored, disillusioned, friendless, is left to face the world and the coming of her lover's child. From an artistic standpoint, the story is absolutely true. If you care for a story for its artistic merit you might read *Coquette*. I have watched its circulation in our library. It has been read exclusively by people who read Swinnerton for his style. One young girl who asked for it and was told something of the sort of a story it was, said she didn't believe she cared to take it. She thought from the name it was probably just a cute little

story. If we are considering it from a standpoint of morality I should place it far ahead of May Sinclair's *The Romantic*, Dell's *The Moon Calf*, or Mary Wollaston.

I think Mr Roden is going to say something about *Growth of the soil*, which I have read and liked. It isn't a story, it's life, with enough material in it for a great many different stories.

When I was in school, I did not major in philosophy. For two years at the U. of I., I majored in Library hand—something that was exchanged for an Underwood as soon as I had left these sacred walls. Had I spent that time on Descartes, Hume, Bacon and a dozen other worthies, I would have had a better background for Mr Dewey's Reconstruction of philosophy, and found it easier reading. It was comforting, however, to find that most of the philosophy written before 1900, smacks of a day that is gone and a tale that is told. Coming to the philosophy of today, however, with so poor a preparation, Mr Dewey proved about as difficult as Mr Haldane and Mr Veblen. I remember in a class taught by Dr Albert Cook, he advised us always to be reading something that required considerable mental effort. It does offer variety. If you have not read philosophy to any very marked extent, I would suggest Mr Dewey for bedtime reading. You will cover about two pages a night and drop off at an early hour.

For myself, the first benefit I reaped from the Reconstruction of philosophy, was a byproduct. The most of us I imagine have gone into library work because of our love for things literary. The music of words has meant more to us than the music of the spheres, and naturally we have been interested in literature as literature. During the last decade or so we have added much along the lines of the useful arts. I fancy a good many of us have not quite so good a collection of books on the natural sciences. All thru the Reconstruction, Dr Dewey contrasts the

lack of achievements of philosophy, with the achievements of science. The farther I read, the more I realized that when I had cleared away some of the dead wood lumbering my own shelves, it would be replaced by some nice new books on science. The real gist of Dr Dewey's book is that the philosopher has awaiting him in the field of social science, problems which can and should be solved. That it is his province to face the great moral defects and troubles from which humanity suffers, to clear up the causes and nature of these evils and to develop a clear idea of better social possibilities, to bring about a moral progress in some way comparable to our scientific progress.

The one thing that has impressed me about this selection of books is the "Forward look" held. Mr Wells—no longer a *very* young man, is looking toward a new social era.

Mr O'Higgins has come into a new world thru his acquaintance with the new psychology, Mr Lewis pictures

the woman who will never cease striving for a more beautiful America, Mr Veblen, whose book is much more revolutionary than I was able to say, looks toward a new economic era, Hamsun writes an epic of a day gone by, which voices today's "back to the soil" movement. Any other half dozen books selected might have held that same Forward look. Does it not behoove some of us who have been long in the service to guard a bit against being more conservative than the conservatives—more capitalistic than the capitalists themselves—to watch, at least, the trend of the times? Coming from Swampscott, my prayer was "Oh Lord, keep me from getting any more set in my ways."

It is as true as it is bromidic that we live in a changing world, one that just now seems changing very rapidly. However dear the past may be to us, let us have faith in the active tendencies of the day and the "Courage born of intelligence" to follow where social and scientific changes direct.

### In the Letter Box

#### Profitable Disposal of Duplicates Editor, PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

Recently, we put into effect, a plan which is having good results and which any library long on duplicates and short on book-funds and shelf space can also adopt or adapt with little effort. Here it is:

A few weeks ago I selected, from our "reserve stock" collection of several hundred duplicates, about 90 volumes which, a), were apparently not needed for our own use, b), were in good condition and bore no marks of ownership except accession numbers, easily eradicable, and c), had cost us very little, on the average, as many of them had been given us. I typed a list of these, giving authors' surnames, brief titles, dates, and selling prices,

and in some instances also noting publishers' present list prices. I had 50 copies multigraphed, and mailed copies to about 25 libraries.

The list bore the heading, "Duplicates for sale," followed by the name and address of the library, also a few paragraphs briefly stating the facts I have here mentioned, and informing the prospective purchaser that prices quoted included transportation, that any item would be sent to any librarian on approval, etc., etc.

In one month we have received orders for about 20 per cent of the total number offered, thereby clearing three feet of needed shelving, have added 14 welcome dollars to our book-fund, and finally, we have, I believe, rendered a small tho real service to those libraries

that took advantage of the low prices quoted on the list.

C. E. W.

### A True Story

A little Russian girl, after a brief sojourn in this country, discovered the library. She proceeded to devour primers and readers, and by the end of six months was absorbing the Lang fairy books. Then one day she announced that when she grew up, she, too, wanted to write a book.

What would you write, Tibby? enquired the children's librarian.

I should like to write poetry, said Tibby. I've been thinking a poem today.

Tell it to me, encouraged the librarian.

I was reading this old book; the pages are worn and the marks of hands are upon it; it is almost gone, but what thoughts and joy it has brought to the children.

OLINA McCABE.

Public library, Des Moines, Ia.

### Information Wanted

The Civic and Emergency committee of the recent conference on Unemployment called by President Harding at Washington asks for information about any libraries which are to be erected or any that should be erected. It asks for suggestions as to how the committee can expedite things in getting work started now.

Any one who is in a position to offer suggestions is asked to communicate with A. L. A. Headquarters, giving all the information obtainable with regard to the possibility of a library being erected soon and the addresses of the persons in charge. This will be transmitted to the Civic and Emergency committee for their consideration. Colonel Arthur Woods, Department of commerce, Washington, D. C., is chairman of the committee and is much interested in obtaining this information.

### Book Week in Toronto

The Children's Book Week in the Toronto public library was begun by an evening meeting devoted to a celebration of the birthday of Robert Louis Stevenson. The children's librarians, of whom there are 20, invited representatives of the Home and School councils of the city, the Neighborhood workers and other bodies interested in the welfare and happiness of children to visit the exhibition and to listen to a talk by W. M. MacKay, the greatest Canadian authority on Stevenson, with illustrations from his library of Stevensoniana. Groups of songs from Stevenson's poems added greatly to the interest of the evening.

Another branch library building has been opened in Toronto. For the last 12 years there has been an average of one each year and yet the demand can not be met. During these years, the appropriation from the city for maintenance has grown six-fold.

G. H. L.

### Bargain Week in Minneapolis

The ethical effect upon the public of a library "Bargain Week" was discussed informally at the Minnesota library association after a session at which Miss Countryman had described Minneapolis' successful campaign.

It had been widely advertised in newspapers, in schools, and on placards, that during the week of October 2-10, any books taken out before September 1 could be returned "without fines and no questions asked." Convenient barrels and baskets were placed inside and outside of the Central building and branches to entice back books from reluctant friends. Much to the staff's surprise, a large number brought their books to the desk and wished to pay their fines.

Over 500 books were returned from rich and poor, from students and novel readers, but mostly the latter, especially of the seven-day fiction. Music scores, automobile books, encyclo-

pedias, and a Life of Christ were among the home-comers, as well as nine books which never belonged to the library. Ten of these books had been out for nine years. More than one-half of these volumes had never been charged. Many had library pockets torn out, possibly in the belief that "what belongs to the people belongs to me."

In commenting on this "Bargain Week," several librarians of rural communities felt that it would hamper their attempted training to make borrowers bring back books promptly. The Minneapolis library feels that the results justified the means, especially as the effort to get overdue books reaches all who are susceptible of training.

#### Library Tax in Ontario

In answer to an inquiry with regard to the compulsory library rate in Ontario, Mr. W. O. Carson, provincial inspector of public libraries, states:

The rate is 50c *per capita*. This is the maximum rate that a library board can claim. The council may vote more if it wishes to do so. There is another clause in the act that permits the council to make a gift to the library board at any time.

#### And This is Fame

Scene—The Library.

Time—Any old day.

Bust of Washington:

I am a patriot's image,  
Doomed for uncertain time to scowl up here  
And day by day condemned to grow more  
dirty.

Till all the dust raised in this pesky college  
Is settled on my head. But that I am too  
tired.

To tell the things my plaster eyes have seen,  
I could a spel spel off whose shortest word  
Would harrow freshmen's souls, freeze their  
young blood

And make them shiver over English I.  
A tale of broom and brush and janitors  
That leave all spic and span below  
Their country's dad, all smut, upon the shelf.  
Haste thee and hustle too. With bon ami,  
With Old Dutch Cleanser and with Naphtha  
soap,

Besrub my all so noble lineaments,  
That e'en a freshman can not look and say,  
"Why, there's Ty Cobb!"

—*Normal College News, Ypsilanti, Mich.*

#### Education Week

The week of December 4-10, 1921, has been set aside as American Education Week, under the auspices of the National Education Association and the American Legion. The N. E. A. is taking the lead in the matter and has invited 35 national organizations, of which the A. L. A. is one, to coöperate with the American Legion and the N. E. A. in bringing before the public the purposes of the week. These may be stated as follows:

#### Purposes

To inform the public of the accomplishments and needs of the public schools, to secure the coöperation and support of the public in meeting these needs, to teach and foster good Americanism, to bring the information of the average citizen who does not read educational literature up-to-date and to change his conception of school as he knew it in his own school days.

#### Topics of Interest

The following topics are suggested for discussion and emphasis in local meetings: American ideals and Americanism, National contributions to our immigrant citizens, Pride in our country and its government, Celebration of the deeds of great civil as well as military heroes, Education—the greatest investment for community, state and nation, How education may be promoted and the community's responsibility toward the school.

Libraries are urged to get in touch with the local educational authorities and the members of the local American Legion. The public library, as an integral part of public education, can not afford to leave its place vacant in a public discussion of educational means. Librarians are urged to take the initiative, if necessary, in order to put the public library on the map as a definite and valuable part of public educational machinery. Work with the American Legion might be the focus of the library's effort, for while library service for the schools is an important part of the library's work, it is by no means the only part, nor indeed, the most important part.

Monthly—Except August  
and September.

# Public Libraries

M. E. Ahern, Editor

6 No. Michigan Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

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Subscription - - - - - \$3 a year Current single number - - - - - 35 cents  
Five copies to one library - - \$12 a year Foreign Subscriptions - - - - - \$3.50 a year

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Contributions for current numbers of *PUBLIC LIBRARIES* should be in hand by the fifteenth of the month previous to the appearance of the magazine. Advertisements for which proof is not required can be accepted as late as the twenty-second of the previous month.

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## Tax on Education

**H**OW many libraries have sent protests against the proposal by Congress to tax the importation of books by U. S. libraries? If none, why? The following is a copy of the protest sent by the City Library Association, Springfield, Mass., regarding the proposed changes to the senators and representatives from Massachusetts:

Resolved, that the Directors of the City library of Springfield, Massachusetts, respectfully protest against changes in the existing tariff as proposed in the so-called Fordney bill, which would injuriously affect the public libraries of the country. The proposed change which would most directly affect libraries is that which would prevent their importing more than two copies of a book free of duty, while the existing law contains only the limitation of two copies in any one invoice. Another provision, which would involve additional work for libraries, imposes a duty on books in for-

ign languages, and on books in English published more than 20 years before the date of importation. This duty is unnecessary, as such books are little competitive with American publications, and the revenue would be insignificant. The proposed increase from 15% to 20% in the duty on books is a serious tax on knowledge, especially if the duty be assessed on the so-called American valuation. While public libraries could still import books free, yet the increase of the duty would hamper scholarship and popular education, which libraries are designed to foster. We earnestly hope that the Fordney bill will be amended to continue the provisions of the existing tariff as noted above.

In view of the great expectations that were aroused by a political change in national affairs, a tax on books heretofore free and a raise of tax on those already overburdened, offer small comfort. Why is this thing permitted by the public intelligence? (See page 607).

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## Appreciation of Service

**T**O the frequent question, How does Cleveland do it? for this recent sign of approval by the public of the plans for a new building for the Cleveland public library is by no means unique in its history, there is but one answer. It is possible because the Cleveland public library is

known and appreciated by the citizens of the place, all classes of citizens, on account of the spirit with which it renders service needed by its supporters.

The attitude of the general public toward a municipal activity, in six times out of seven, is determined by the personal knowledge and experience

of its individual members, gained in personal contact in using the institution.

A review of the personnel of the workers for the library bond issue in Cleveland and the expressions of opinion, wide-spread, open and unsolicited, in favor of the issue, shows, in every case, a result of sympathetic service in some phase of the library's work. The

solidarity of interest, on the part of all concerned, works for the betterment of the library and conversely, for the public itself and those who serve it. (See page 605.)

The triumph of the second library bond issue by Cleveland is the public's approval of and satisfaction in, its public library.

### Reward of Labor

THE obituary columns of PUBLIC LIBRARIES this month contain death notices of two fine library workers, of whom it would not be unfair to say that they were sacrificed by unthinking library communities thru nervous breakdowns due to overwork.

When will the supporters of a library realize the crime admitted in a true statement of that kind? When will librarians understand the wrong they are doing to the community in which they work, as well as themselves, in making such a record possible?

A library trustee of a good library which has been guilty of wrong-doing of this kind to a much larger degree than is to their credit, remarked in speaking of it not long since, "Librarians are wrong in the extent to which they idealize their work. Of course, we want our librarians to be happy in their life's vocation but we also want them to be sensible at the same time. No community likes to have it said of it that any of its public servants killed himself or herself in service, when that fact is needless. No community would suffer permanent injury if it were late in coming to the full library service

which it wants and therefore these many breakdowns from overwork on the part of library employes border very close to sheer foolishness and are certainly wicked wastefulness."

This is rather strong language, but one is bound to confess, in observing the situation in many localities, that there is much truth in it.

The statement of Mr Henry at the meeting of the Pacific Northwest library association (P.L. 26:555) fits the situation admirably and those charged with the responsibility of library development and library extension should see to it that no one under their supervision is allowed to make this cruel wasteful sacrifice, merely for the sake of enlarging the pecuniary opportunity of the library.

Isn't it about time for those engaged in educational work to realize that time is long and that a good work can afford to wait? Martyrdom in mere service is hurtful and militates against the object in view.

The public means everybody and the librarians are as important a part of the public as any other part—"Whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it. They are many members of the one body."

### Something Lacking

Here is a picture as painted by a librarian:

I have intended to write you before this an account of library progress in this bailiwick but have been hindered. Working something more than 60 hours a week at library work doesn't put one in the frame of mind to write letters.

Our report will show fair progress when it is finished. But why, oh why, didn't I look about 20 years ahead, and go to a library school? I have had to experiment and practice, wasting time and energy, making mistakes and finding out methods. If we had had sufficient appropriation to employ a well-trained person, I wouldn't have had all this fuss with details; but when there is an allowance of \$80 a month for the assistant, the only assistant I have, what can one do? However, this year (when the crop of library students is really picked before it is ripe), we are allowed \$100 a month for an assistant. And like all other libraries are obliged to go without.

But I enjoy the work; and after 15 years of it wouldn't go at anything else, even at a big salary. It's great to be satisfied with one's work, isn't it? As a cartoonist in one of the dailies puts it, "Isn't it a grand and glorious feeling?"

But, is it?

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### Death's Toll

Mrs Thomas Lynch Montgomery died at her home in Philadelphia, October 16, 1921.

Mrs Montgomery was so modest and retiring that few people realized what a really gifted woman she was. Librarians knew her chiefly as the genial, courteous visitor at their meetings, which she often attended as a companion of her husband who has long been a leading member of both national and local organizations.

Mrs Montgomery was a portrait painter of no mean ability and about 40 portraits are in possession of persons who prize them very highly. The Church of the Annunciation in Philadelphia owes much of its decoration to her, she having painted the beautiful picture of the Annunciation that is there as well as many of the lunettes.

Miss H. Della Ellinwood, librarian of All Saints school, Sioux Falls, S. D., died suddenly of heart failure caused by acute indigestion, on the night of October 18.

Miss Ellinwood had for years done organization work in Wisconsin, Ohio, Utah, Idaho, Wyoming and South Dakota. She seemed rather to prefer staying a few months with a library till its record work was perfected and then to pass on to another, to rendering a long service with one library.

Being a natural born teacher she had rare patience with inexperienced librarians and loved to prepare them for library school or more efficient service in their libraries.

A number of librarians today owe their careful organization to her faithful service, while as many librarians owe their later usefulness largely to her painstaking exactness in teaching them at the beginning of their careers.

M. E. D.

Miss Annie E. Wayland, for 14 years a member of the staff of the Public library, Bangor, Me., died September 4, 1921.

The Bangor library has met an almost irreparable loss in the death of Miss Wayland. She came into the library as a high school substitute and after graduation, was appointed a regular assistant. In the 14 years since then, she had made herself familiar with nearly every department of library work.

Faithful beyond measure, absolutely devoted to her work and to the interests of the library, with the highest ideals of her profession, she had served the public for many years in the Reference department. Her work required skill, a broad knowledge of books, infinite patience and an abiding faith in human nature. All of these qualities she had in the fullest measure. She dealt with the boys and girls of the schools, with the women's clubs, with the rural schools and the charitable institutions of the city through traveling libraries, and with any and all who had a piece of literary work to do or a question to be answered. Those whom she helped will always remember her and the friendly smile with which the service was rendered.

Several years ago Miss Wayland had a serious nervous breakdown due to overwork. Since then she had never been strong. A

recurrence of this nervous condition resulted fatally. She leaves a widowed mother for whom she had tenderly cared.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES is indebted to Miss Wayland for much kindness and helpfulness and her assistance will be sadly missed in what this magazine is trying to do.

### Cleveland Library Upheld

It was a matter of great satisfaction to librarians familiar with the situation to learn that the bond issue for the proposed erection of a new library building for Cleveland was carried by a goodly majority at the election in November. All the other bond issues were lost.

The campaign for the bond issue was most interesting. Cleveland is near the limit of its bond indebtedness. It is an industrial city feeling the effects of the financial depression and economic expenditures were the chief talking point of several candidates for mayor. This made it an exceedingly bad time to ask for a bond issue but one month of intensive publicity campaigning carried the day.

All the branches, the schools, indeed every organization, labor, business, social, educational and what not, were enlisted. Contributions of advertising matter, window cards, slides, newspapers and other papers, house organs and public speaking were all utilized. Over 250,000 leaflets were distributed. Thousands of letters were written. Cloth runners on library branches and on the site itself and all other buildings were employed. House to house canvasses were made. Street-cars, wind-shields and trucks all carried printed matter. Floats toured the city during the last week carrying giant slogans. On election day, the staff and volunteer workers manned the polls during the busiest hours.

The returns show 140,484 ballots cast, the largest number of ballots cast except for mayor. There was a majority of over 20,000. For the first bond issue in the spring of 1912, the number of votes cast was only 34,113 and the majority only 1477.

This bond issue will give a total of \$4,500,000 for the building and the question was so worded that any surplus may be used for branch buildings.

A sample of the publicity material is to be sent to the Headquarters of the A. L. A.

Plans for the building have already been accepted and a number of facts with regard to it are clearly understood. The outside dimensions of the building will be 192 by 210 feet. There will be five stories and an attic, with more than 200,000 square feet of floor space. Forty miles of shelving will make room for 2,000,000 books. There will be between 25 and 30 reading-rooms, allotted to various divisions. The greater part of the books will be on open shelves where the choice by borrowers can be made by actually looking at the books.

A central rotunda will have a vaulted ceiling two floors high. There will be no elaborate and costly work on it. Beauty of line and simplicity will be the keynotes.

### A. L. A. Notes.

A meeting of the A. L. A. Council is set for December 29-31, at the Hotel Sherman, Chicago. There will be two executive sessions and one open meeting. The League of library commissions and the Bibliographical society of America will also meet. It is very probable that there will be round table conferences of university, college and normal school librarians. Full announcements will be sent out by A. L. A. Headquarters later.

The American Library Association was represented at the meeting of the Southern Co-operative league in Chattanooga, November 6-9, by Miss Margaret Dunlap, librarian of the Chattanooga public library. Miss Dunlap placed a county library exhibit which had been sent to her by the A. L. A. and distributed copies of a county library leaflet supplied by A. L. A. Headquarters. The exhibit was supplemented with local county library material. The Chattanooga public li-

brary has done some notable work in this direction.

Among the resolutions adopted by the conference, two are of special interest—The indorsement of the educational movement in the South, particularly the support of rural circulating libraries and the theory that the upper limit of taxation for education should be determined solely by each local community for itself. The other was the adoption of the educational slogan—Double public educational appropriations in five years.

Dr P. P. Claxton, former U. S. Commissioner of Education and now associated with the University of Alabama, is president of the Southern Co-operative league.

Claribel R. Barnett, second vice-president of the A. L. A., represented the A. L. A. at a conference of organizations supporting the Towner-Sterling educational bill on October 1-2 in Washington.

Emily Van Dorn Miller, librarian of the U. S. Marine Hospital No. 14, New Orleans, La., represented the A. L. A. at a meeting of the American Country Life association in New Orleans, November 10-12. Leaflets about county libraries were distributed and an exhibit on county libraries was displayed in the headquarters at the St. Charles hotel.

The two bookbinding exhibits have been used at 15 places since June 1. Seven of these appointments were for summer library schools, and two were for state meetings, in Iowa and New Hampshire. One exhibit was displayed during the meeting of the N. E. A. at Des Moines in July, and the other at the Iowa state fair in August, in connection with the exhibit of the Iowa library commission. Three individual libraries have used them, one as an attraction in its program of publicity. One of the exhibits has recently been used in the New York State library school at Albany.

During the months of December and January the exhibits will be more readily available than at most times of the year, when more definite dates are to be met.

Requests for the loan of these exhibits should be addressed to Mary E. Wheelock, Public library, Des Moines, Iowa, with approximate date desired.

On invitation from the Secretary of War, the president of the A. L. A. appointed a delegation to represent the A. L. A. in the ceremonies attending the burial of the Unknown Dead on November 11, as follows: Dr Herbert Putnam, J. I. Wyer, H. H. B. Meyer, George F. Bowerman, L. L. Dickerson.

The delegation was assigned a special time for the presentation of a floral decoration, was given a place in the official parade and seats in the amphitheatre at Arlington.

\* \* \*

In the rotunda of the Capitol on the morning of November 10, in the name of the A. L. A., the delegation formally deposited a floral wreath bearing the following inscription:

The American Library Association  
to  
The Unnamed Soldier:  
in reverent tribute  
from those who gave something  
to those who gave  
All  
and, Mortal, in that very Gift  
Found Immortality.

They are not dead, who die  
In a great cause. . . . Their Spirit  
Walks abroad—conducts  
The world at last to freedom.

The second participation was in the formal procession on the morning of November 11 from the Capitol to Arlington, and in the ceremonies attending the interment, perhaps the most dignified, the most appropriate and the most solemn ever held on any occasion in this country.

H. H. B. MEYER.

**The Fordney Tariff Bill Reactionary.**

The Fordney Tariff measure, which passed the House quickly several months ago, still lies before the Senate committee on finance, with hearings not yet begun and little prospect of passage before spring. There has thus been time abundant to examine it. How retrogressive are its book sections may be gathered from the following considerations:

1. Its authors propose to lay an impost of 20% on the immigrant's library, if exceeding \$250 in value. For precedent, we must go back beyond August 10, 1790. On that date, the American Congress, in its second tariff enactment, declared the immigrant's books and other household effects free of duty, and so they have remained to this day. Not till 1921, had any statesman arisen to dispute the wisdom of not penalizing the entry of a family that owned a library.

2. The proposal, further, is to exact similar tribute from *libraries* in cases where they import more than two copies of a work. The like of this has not been seen in the United States for over a century! It was on April 27, 1816, that we lifted the duty from books, maps, charts, etc. "specially imported by order and for the use of any society incorporated for philosophical or literary purposes, or for the encouragement of the fine arts, or by order and for the use of any seminary of learning." In fact it was not till 1872 that any limit was placed even on the number of copies that could be imported in any one *invoice*. Never till now has a maximum been set.

3. If the bill passes, the individual will pay duty on all his foreign books, no matter what the date or language. That he has not had to do for 51 years. The Act of July 14, 1870, removed books as much as 20 years old from the dutiable class. By the Act of October 1, 1890, this free list was swelled by the addition of books in languages other than English regardless of date, thus leaving only the English books of twenty years subject to duty. So they have remained unbroken.

4. "Textbooks used in schools and other educational institutions" vanish from the section that holds them in the Act of October 3, 1913.

5. Replacing the invoice as rendered with an arbitrary American valuation is, of course, revolutionary, but the times, too, are unmatched. So there may be two opinions as to the wisdom of this feature. Its serious effect on book prices, however, is not open to question, applied, as it would be, to all imported books.

6. Since 1890, four general tariff measures have been enacted—equally divided between the two parties. But in the matter of book importation there has hardly been a shadow of partisan division. Democrats and Republicans have vied with each other in liberalizing the law on this score. If McKinley freed the rest of foreign language books and made like provision for the blind, W. L. Wilson countered by adding hydrographic charts, learned society publications to subscribers, government documents, gratis private copies, and even "scientific books and periodicals devoted to original scientific research" (an item that disappears in subsequent Acts, however). Dingley advances by including in the free list the "exchanges by scientific and literary associations or academies," while Underwood answers with an expansion of the free blind schedule, the addition of textbooks and lowering the book duty, when assessed, to 15% from the 25% that had obtained since July 30, 1864.

Meanwhile the A. L. A. memorial lies in Washington stirring like an yeast, for it has been endorsed by nearly 20 learned societies and scores of university and college presidents. A hearing is being arranged in conjunction with the American Council on Education. If there be librarians who have not addressed their home senators, let them act without delay. Protest cannot be heaped too high.

M. LLEWELLYN RANEY, Chairman  
PURD B. WRIGHT,  
A. L. A. Committee on Book Buying.

**Dallas Public Library at the State Fair**

Unique in the annals of the Dallas public library was its exhibit at the State fair of Texas in October. The exhibit was located in an attractive corner of the rotunda of the Fine Arts building, and thousands of visitors from Texas and the other states of the Union, with many from Canada and Mexico, thronged past it every day.

Following the lead of the A. L. A. at its Swampscott meeting, Dallas selected the County library as the phase of the work on which to put the greatest emphasis, altho advertising the local library and the extension of its lending privileges to the entire county was by no means a minor purpose.

Naturally, books form the basis of any library exhibit, therefore 175 books and a few magazines, as varied in subject as Peter Rabbit, live-stock judging, and the plays of William Butler Yeats were selected, those of direct interest to the rural home being in predominance. These books were arranged in roughly classified groups on a four-shelved bookcase on the wide molding capping the wainscot, and on tables, one table being devoted to books for the children.

Among the outstanding features of the exhibit were the county library panels prepared by the A. L. A. (the loan of the Texas state library), a large map of Texas with the four counties having county libraries indicated, and a group of pictures of the Cooke County free library and its various branches. The map bore the suggestive inscription: *Cooke, Dallam, Harris, and Potter counties have libraries, Why not your county?* The Commercial club of Gainesville, the county seat of Cooke county, at the suggestion of Miss Lillian Gunter, the librarian, made itself financially responsible for the panel advertising their library, and for its transportation to Dallas.

Of the local features, the most striking were the graph with the Dallas library as a center showing the different

classes of people who use the library, and photographs of the Oak Cliff branch library. A small card catalog file added a characteristic touch to the exhibit, and numerous posters carried their subtle suggestions to the passing crowds.

By no means, all the crowd could be called "passing" for many stopped at the registration desk, which was just inside the railing, to make application for membership in the Dallas public library, or stepped inside to examine the exhibit more closely. As opportunity presented itself, the assistant in charge explained the advantages of taking books directly to the rural community, and the Texas laws governing the establishment of libraries with the county as the unit. Thru the coöperation of Miss Elizabeth H. West, librarian of the Texas state library, literature was at hand for distribution to those interested in the library welfare of their own counties, as well as a leaflet describing the work of the department of traveling libraries of the state institution.

Those instrumental in furthering this effort to spread the gospel of the county library were much gratified at the results as they can be determined so far. Registration statistics will give tangible proof that it has been worth while, but the memory of little children poring over the books while their mothers visited other features of the Fair; of eager school teachers making note of helpful books on their profession; of home-makers coming in, not once, but many times, to consult books of house plans; and of those who left us prepared to take home with them the message of the County library and its possibilities, would have been a sufficient reward.

MARY VICK BURNETT.

Without books God is silent, justice dormant, natural science at a stand, philosophy lame, letters dumb, and all things involved in Cimmerian darkness.—*Bartholin. Taken from Bulletin, Kellogg library.*

**Illinois Library Association****The twenty-fifth annual meeting**

The Illinois library association held its twenty-fifth annual meeting at the University of Illinois at Urbana, October 11-13, under the direction of Miss Effie A. Lansden of Cairo, Illinois, president.

The first afternoon was taken up with reports of officers, all of which recorded an increase in activities, membership and income. The expenditures for the year were \$369, leaving a balance on hand, October, 1921, of \$283. Miss Anna M. Price of the State Library Extension commission reported that her department had been materially improved, the appropriation had been nearly doubled and the staff had been increased.

Later Miss Price reported that the legislature had passed the bill increasing the tax levy for libraries in the state so that cities under 100,000 inhabitants would receive 1.8 mills and Chicago would receive .8 of a mill. No other library legislation was enacted.

The president then presented the matter of affiliation with the A. L. A., in which the officers of that association asked the I. L. A. to become a chapter of the same, instead of the affiliation which now exists. After a full presentation of the rules and regulations governing the matter, the association voted that the Illinois library association become a chapter of the A. L. A. in accordance with the by-laws of that association.

**Booksellers and librarians.**

A. A. Kroch of Kroch's International book store of Chicago presented a paper on Bookshops and librarians. In his talk he said that he preferred to speak of the allied interests of the booksellers and the librarians. He wished to distinguish between the library as an accumulation of books, systematically arranged for the use of students and the public library whose object is to bring literature and love for the higher things in life to the masses. The former is more or less a

question of administration and of admirable literary technique. Their effort is completeness within a more or less specialized field. They are indispensable to the brain worker, the historian and the inventor since their object is to collect everything worth while on certain subjects.

Mr Kroch urged that the larger libraries combine in publishing a catalog of their possessions for the use of booksellers as well as for their own use. He believed that booksellers in the United States and abroad would buy and share the cost of such a catalog since it would enable them to make intelligent offers, and this catalog could be supplemented by quarterly lists of additions, special wants and duplicates. Such a bulletin would be the nucleus of a scientific library quarterly established along practical lines and self-sustaining almost from the beginning.

While the special libraries stand proudly aloof, their democratic sisters, the public libraries, are just the opposite. Their main strength is in the librarian who is able to open the doors to millions of men and women.

The librarian and the bookseller are similar. Their efforts and their strifes are mutual. The librarian as well as the book seller is not born but is the product of cultivation. What Miss Bessie Graham, in her admirable *Bookman's Manual*, says of the librarian is obviously true of the book seller: "He must know his books, not much in a few books, but a little in all the books. There can be no question of what to read. He must read it all; not all of all he sees, but a little of everything he sees."

The librarian as well as the bookseller must become enthusiastic over the books and be able to share this enthusiasm. Know your books, become enthusiastic over them and transmit this enthusiasm to your readers, are the cardinal points of the successful librarian and bookseller.

The librarian has one great advantage over the bookseller. The dealer's attitude towards the public is oftentimes influenced by mercenary motives. The motives of the former are unselfish and are recognized as such. The highest point the bookseller may ever reach is the confidence of the public. The librarian has the power to mould the taste of the public. The bookseller is "behind a wire netting." Development may be greatly influenced by the librarian and the bookseller in the United States where the character of our people is such

a peculiar conglomeration of cold reasoning and emotional sentimentalism, where, swayed by impulses, we are ready to accept judgment without logical reasoning.

The librarian has a peculiarly fitted training to hold positions of influence but mere library technique should not overshadow the real object of the librarian—to bring literature and the public together. The book sellers' present-day training is wanting in many respects. The public has no guarantee whatsoever.

Mr Kroch said that library and bookselling schools could well be combined for mutual benefit and should form regular university courses which would entitle the successful graduate to a degree of B.C.—Book Counselor. Lawyers and judges have attended the same schools—why not librarians and booksellers?

Long and assiduous are the preparations to become a successful bookseller or librarian! A well-prepared bookseller can always find remunerative employment or he may choose to start a book store of his own. His success will depend on his will to succeed. He must become a cultural factor and not merely a shopkeeper. If he is able to enforce the public's recognition of his honest efforts, commercial success is bound to follow.

But what about the librarian's prospects? A few well paid positions in the large cities—eventually a connection with a business house—What else? The public has not been awakened to the importance of the librarian as an educational factor and therefore doesn't recognize the service rendered by the librarian.

The public does not seem to realize that the librarian is to a library what a general is to an army, that without him the library is "But a land of shadows." It should show itself so generous to the librarian that no other call would tempt him and that the best elements can be called upon to become the intellectual leaders in the community.

The librarian should use every opportunity to impress the public with the value of a home library, and a small slip inserted in each book, suggesting to the reader that if he enjoyed the book and may want to read it again and again, to buy it either for himself or as a gift to a friend.

Mr Kroch thinks that librarians offering books for sale is a great error, as it will lessen the prestige of the library with the public.

Referring to the wave of Americanization, Mr Kroch said that its best ally is the librarian but that forced as-

similation is useless. In European countries assimilation of immigrants has failed because the soul of the immigrant remained undisclosed.

In this country the second generation is assimilated because, until now, forced methods were ignored. Good books, carefully chosen, are the best assimilants. Educated immigrants are needed just as much as mere work horses and if they find a few books in their native languages then they at once feel at home. If the library meets them half way and shows real interest in their mental development, it will gain a potential factor in the cultural progress of the country. Such readers will eventually become readers of the best in American literature.

The alert bookseller keeps himself informed on the new publications before the librarian reads about them. If the librarian makes it a part of his task to meet the bookseller and discuss the new books with him, to keep posted on the public's preferences, to look over the books before he buys them, even to borrow them for closer examination, then the slight increase in price which he may pay by buying from the local bookstore is well expended for the benefit of his reading public. When he gets first-hand information, he can more intelligently follow the book reviews and be prepared to answer the many questions of the public as to why this or that book is not on the shelves. For the bookseller, these half-hours with the librarian are most inspiring.

The subject of "Library short cuts" was introduced by Zana K. Miller, librarian of Library Bureau. She described many "time savers" in library records, all the way from order cards which might also be used as shelf list cards, to printed guides for the shelf list and catalog. Her argument was for the elimination of unnecessary details in technical records, so that librarians may have more time for the work of getting books to the people. Various other helpful "short cuts" which are being used in Illinois libraries were presented by Miss Abel, Miss Booth, Mrs Kennedy, Miss Kent, Mrs Kerns, Miss Kosek, and Miss Skogh.

The Tuesday evening meeting opened with a real musical treat in hearing the organ, when Miss Edna Treat of the University of music faculty, played several very delightful selections. Mr Windsor welcomed the as-

sociation to Urbana and Champaign and Miss Lansden replied that so many of the library workers in the State had been to the university at various times that it was almost like a homecoming. It was the third time the association had met at the university and it was also the silver anniversary of the association; in honor of this occasion she had gathered the past presidents still living in Illinois on the platform. She then presented them to the association,—Mr Roden, Miss Milner, Miss Ahern (three times elected), Mr Windsor, Miss Booth, Miss Lansden and Miss Hubbell. Unfortunately the group was not quite complete as Miss Parham and Mr Hanson were not present.

Miss Ahern then showed the film which the A. L. A. had secured from the American Committee on the devastated regions in France. The pictures and the legends give a good idea of the wonderful work with children that is being done in the devastated regions of France. The French regard the American library system as very wonderful and have responded eagerly to the efforts of the capable and enthusiastic workers who have established libraries for children in a number of these devastated communities. The pictures showed very attractive reading rooms, well equipped, with French children who showed a ready appreciation of this opportunity for education. The American girls engaged in the work were training French girls to carry on the reading rooms later and three very interesting young French women have come to the United States to take regular library courses.

After the pictures, the members enjoyed a reception in the Woman's building given by the Library club of the university and the Urbana and Champaign library boards.

On Wednesday morning, Miss Lansden, president, gave her address, a review of the 25 years of the association's existence.

#### Review of 25 years

She touched on the high places in the story, mentioning the work that had been done by Miss Sharp, Mr Legler, Mr Willcox, Miss Lindsay and Miss Thain, among those who are now no more and Miss Tyler, Miss Marvin, Mr Barr and F. K. W. Drury as those living who had conferred distinction on the profession outside as well as within Illinois. The other nine presidents are still serving the state. Miss Lansden told of an addition of 103 members during the year, making a total of 381, and mentioned fact of the Chicago library club having a larger membership.

In the handbook published in 1918 will be found a full account of the early times of our organization. This was prepared by Miss Ahern, a pioneer in the work of this association and in this article she has ably set forth the striking events of our history.

There are active librarians both in and out of Chicago who are not members of the Illinois library association. What can we do to prove to them that it is worth while to belong? Is there no satisfaction in being associated with fellow craftsmen? Does one not get help from exchange of ideas with them? Should one not join out of a sense of professional fair play—that you may give as well as get?

The past year has brought us some effective library legislation and thruout the State it is a matter of rejoicing that we shall have increased incomes and there shall be no reduction of funds thru the operation of scaling.

The merging of the Library Extension commission with the State library was effected by the last legislature. This plan has worked well in New York and California. In our own state, it is a partial consolidation which we hope may before long be made an entire consolidation of all the tax-supported libraries at Springfield.

I am proud of our state's record in the American Library Association. We are third in membership by states, New York, Massachusetts and then Illinois.

The aspirations and hopes of the years have not all been realized, the standard of service is not what it should be thruout the state. Many communities are yet without good library facilities, some with none of any description. There are 17 counties in Illinois with no public library service and 69 libraries with less than \$1500 yearly incomes.

In these days of financial stress the opportunity for service was never so urgent upon libraries and librarians. You are all

realizing this in the crowded reading rooms, increasing circulations and demands upon your resources.

Can the Illinois library association be of service to you in this time of opportunity? I feel that it can. The most valuable thing one gets from joining an organization is a feeling of *esprit de corps* and *esprit* is defined as 'a spirit of common devotion,' sympathy among the members of an association. 'Organization is a partnership and the thing to get is coöperation.'

Frederick G. Melcher of New York City then talked on a

#### Renaissance of reading

He said that for the last 25 years the periodical had taken the place of the book and that a family bought several hundred periodicals to one book during the year. Bookstores had been slow to recover from this setback, but it was becoming apparent that a change had taken place and the bookselling business was entering on a new era of prosperity. New methods of business and the many new subjects about which books were being written were responsible for this revival of the book trade. Bookmen from all over the world were coming to New York to compare methods and confer with publishing houses. Since the United States is really the geographical center of the English speaking people, we have the responsibility in producing the best books and an even larger responsibility in distributing them. If librarians were distressed over the fact that so many regions were without books, booksellers were even more so.

He spoke of the great interest in children's reading that was manifested by all educated people. The habit of reading is one that must be cultivated at an early age and the school and home library should be responsible for the formation of this habit. We must depend on books to knit the nation together, our children must be given books that will give them true pictures of the different nations, so that they will develop the right sense of proportion and a proper understanding of democracy.

Bookstores must cater to all classes; college bookstores are being stocked with books that will develop individuality; city bookstores must supply the business man, the manufacturer, the farmer, the importer, the professional man, the school and the library.

Our libraries and bookstores must be attractive, they must belong to the people. A literary renaissance can not be expected unless the soil is nourished with good books, so it is evident that distribution is even more important than creation. Print will bring international spirit, but distribution will bring unity.

The rest of the day was devoted to round table and section meetings.

#### Conference on children's libraries

Miss Sarah C. N. Bogle was chairman and she discussed in a very interesting paper, "The child and the book." (given in full in PUBLIC LIBRARIES, November, 26:509-12.)

Among the important news items that have appeared lately in the daily papers is one stating that because of the alarming increase in juvenile crime the government, thru the Department of Labor, had started an investigation. Miss Bogle thought this item of vital concern to librarians and discussed, with numerous interesting personal incidents, the relation of children's reading to crime. She pointed out the duty we owe the next generation of trying to prevent the publication of the cheap and vicious books that are flooding the country and emphasized the great need in the school, the home and the library of developing in children a discriminating love of books.

What is a children's librarian? was the title of a paper by Miss Alice I. Hazeltine (Given in full in PUBLIC LIBRARIES for November, 26:513-19). She said that really a children's librarian is any librarian who believes that work with children is worthwhile. No part of library work is more productive of returns than work with children. A children's librarian must have a sense of proportion and a warm interest in children, she must meet them naturally, without patronage, yet with enough authority to win respect. She must plan her reading on broad lines and constantly study her collection of children's books so that it will be well rounded. Miss Hazeltine gave a good bibliography of books that a children's librarian should study for a knowledge of her subject.\*

#### High-school section

About 35 high school librarians and others interested in high school work were present, with Miss Wilma Ponder

\*[Reprints of Miss Hazeltine's paper have been made and may be obtained from PUBLIC LIBRARIES.—Editor.]

of the Proviso township high school, Maywood, in the chair.

Miss Baldwin of Highland Park discussed administrative problems. School credit for library work and the necessity of keeping circulation statistics received the most attention. The general opinion seemed to be that students should not receive credit toward graduation for work done in the library unless the work was done in a systematic, profitable way, such as is usual for library apprentices. All agreed that statistics are often invaluable in making out questionnaires or to use to show patrons or principals the value of the library to the school.

Miss Sullivan of the J. Sterling Morton high school, of Cicero, led an interesting discussion on salaries, pensions and teachers' certificates for the high school librarian.

Miss Edes of La Grange presented an argument for a special organization of high school librarians which should be affiliated with the New England association of school libraries. The idea did not elicit much interest.

Miss Carter, of Oak Park, in discussing instruction in the use of the library for high school students, thought from her own experience that it is impossible for the librarian to give all of the instruction. In Oak Park, the teachers have been giving the work to the freshmen from outlines prepared by the librarian.

Miss Hadley of the Decatur high school led the book selection discussion. The following lists were indicated as new aids for the high school librarian: History in English; Fiction in English history; Books for the continuation school; Recent non-professional books for the high school teachers and Modern poetry for high schools. All of these may be procured from Miss Mary Davis, Brookline high school, Brookline, Mass.

#### Trustees section

That it is the clear duty of the library trustees to represent the library before the City Council was one of the

points established in the trustees' section. The argument was developed by Dr A. E. MacGalliard, of Granite City, who told how the trustees there had interested the council.

In reply to questions, it was learned that some of the libraries had never invited members of the council to inspect the building. Others not only held such inspection, but had sought actively to interest the council in the work and needs of the library. Some libraries made a monthly financial report to the council and some did not.

Much interest was attached to the subject handled by Mr John B. Wallbridge, of Hoopeston, who spoke upon the "Relations of the trustees and the librarian." Mr Wallbridge believed that both could work in harmony if tact were employed and a common interest developed.

Give the librarian authority to carry on her work, do not interfere in internal administration, and play fair, were some of Mr Wallbridge's admonitions. Discussion brought out the fact that embarrassment has arisen in some libraries because the functions of the librarian and trustees are not fully defined. Complaint was made that in one library the librarian usurped the prerogatives of book selection. In reply to this it was asserted that an alert book committee could be a check on the librarian if it did something more than formally approve the librarian's list. Most of the trustees indicated that they were given to suggesting books. Trustees were advised that a librarian is a trained expert who is responsible to the Board for the conduct of the library. It is essential, therefore, that she should have such facilities to work with as the Board can afford, and since she is the one to use these she should be consulted on the matter of purchases of furniture and other equipment.

An illuminating talk upon the county library was given by Professor Luther E. Robinson of Monmouth, chairman of the Warren County li-

brary, which is functioning successfully, and rapidly extending its branches. Professor Robinson said that he was getting fine coöperation from the Board of Supervisors, members of which have accompanied him into rural communities to help him set up branches. The work has gone far enough to indicate that the county library can be made a success.

W. F. Hardy of the Decatur Public Library board, who presided, advised the male trustees that it was largely incumbent upon them to make the library attractive to business men, declaring that it would be well for them to find out what business men were reading or what it was that kept them away from the library. Mr. Hardy suggested that the atmosphere of the average small town library, which is in the hands of women, was not calculated to appeal particularly to men who, when they read, like club comforts.

#### College and reference round table

The college and reference round-table was attended by over 100 who evinced a lively interest in the subjects discussed. Miss Amanda Flattery of the catalog department of the University of Illinois library discussed the Making of a dictionary. Miss Flattery was employed for more than a year as definer on the editorial staff of the Standard dictionary. She outlined in a brief but extremely interesting way the organization necessary for the making of a modern authoritative dictionary. She called attention to the personnel of the staff and the various gradations in rank. The finished product of the work combined the labor of more than 250 consulting scholars and an office force of 75 persons.

She traced the work thru the stages of defining, reviewing, attaching quotations and editing. Her purpose was to give an insight into the mechanical details of dictionary making, emphasizing the immense amount of labor involved, the perfection of system required and the imperative need of pre-

cision and accuracy in every stage of the work. No copyrights are infringed upon, brevity and conciseness must be preserved and personal bias eliminated. After many revisions, proof is mailed to the consulting experts all over the world for their O. K. It is very interesting.

Miss Alice Johnson of the University of Illinois reference department discussed the use of vertical files in reference work. They are necessary for current material, clippings and pamphlets wanted in a hurry but which ordinarily are not of sufficient permanent value to pay for cataloging. They are filed in envelopes open at the top and placed in the vertical files by subject headings as used in the *Readers' Guide*. A typed list of all headings is kept at the reference desk. Envelopes are allowed to go out of the building at night. Periodically the files are weeded out and thus kept up-to-date.

In the discussion, most of the librarians seemed to think the large manilla envelopes preferable to the small and that some reference to this material should be placed in the card catalog.

Miss Margaret Hutchins of the University of Illinois reference department discussed briefly some of the newer reference books of general interest: The American supplement to Grove's Dictionary of music, the International who's who in music, Hassall's European history, H. G. T. Cannon's Bibliography of industrial efficiency and factory management, the new edition of Severance's Guide to periodicals, *Athena* and the *Index generalis* as possible substitutes for the *Minerva Jahrbuch*.

Mr. Tweedell mentioned some year-books which had been found useful in the John Crerar library and described the method which that library uses in keeping the files of state documents up-to-date. The documents are checked on a large form sheet with places to note first, second and third request for missing numbers. The first two requests are well-worded form post cards with a reply form attached. The third request is a personal letter from the librarian. A

necessary tool in this work is the *Monthly List* of state publications issued by the Library of Congress.

Mr Schenk, law librarian of the University of Chicago, gave in detail the features of the rental collections in use at that university. The calls for books on collateral reading were so heavy as to be a serious drain on the book fund. The students did not readily buy them, so the idea was conceived of a rental collection covering several sets of collateral reading including books for use in history and political science courses. These are rented to students at about one-fourth of their cost each semester. This will cover the cost of the books by the time they are worn out, no overhead being charged. In the courses where there is a fairly constant demand for certain specified books, the instructor agrees to use the books for a reasonable number of quarters, with the result that so far the scheme has been successful.

The advantages of the rental system are: The demand on the library to supply required reading in large classes is relieved to some extent, the library is not required to purchase as many duplicates which might later be discarded and the student is more likely to do his required reading.

Mr Roden stated that he thought it would be a good thing to inaugurate the same system at the Chicago public library for books used in night school classes. This library has separated the casual readers and the students and all the reference facilities are concentrated on one floor.

Mr Roden said, in his opinion, many out-of-town libraries were unreasonable in their requests for inter-library loans. The library is glad to answer calls for specific books when they are available but the library receives blanket requests for material on certain subjects which entail much reference work on the part of the staff. Mr Roden thought that many of these requests were couched in impertinent terms, in addition to asking for unreasonable service.

#### General library problems

Miss Helen A. Bagley of Oak Park presided. Miss Vera Snook, librarian of Reddick's library, Ottawa, told of her experiences in extension work in that town. By means of reading contests, posters, parties and motion picture shows held in the library, the children are brought in droves to the books. She often visits the several factories and keeps books on deposit there. She uses window displays, publishes book lists and has well-known business men write reviews for the books of current interest. These latter are published in the newspapers and always bring results.

Miss Kratz of Champaign discussed binding problems. She suggested that the mending table should be near the delivery desk so that small repairs could be easily and quickly made.

Miss Reilly of Cicero told of some effective publicity methods such as speaking to the children in the schools twice a year, helping women's clubs prepare programs, publishing articles and booklists in the newspapers and displaying posters in shop windows. Miss Osmotherly of Wilmette also had found these methods effective.

Miss Turner of Kewanee read a paper on Teach the use of the library to the public. This paper will be given space in another number of PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

#### A literary Fellowship

The meeting on Wednesday evening consisted of several very fine musical numbers by members of the faculty of the University of Illinois music school. The speaker of the evening was Mr Percy Mackaye of Miami university, where he has a literary Fellowship. He explained that he has no formal work there and that he is free to devote his time to writing. He is often called upon for consultation but no demands are made.

Mr Mackaye spoke of the strange feeling the poet has when a poem of his is published. After it has been so long an intimate thing, known only to himself, the sensation of its being every-

where is very strange. The function of the poet in America, according to Mr Mackaye, is that of an interpreter of the background of life. The poet should so work over the mere potencies of local American life that these bits would be developed into a living background. It was to found this type of writing that he himself had absorbed so much of the New England folk lore and fashioned it into his poem, *Dogtown Common*.

The poem is of a date a little later than the witchcraft period and about the descendants of the witches who still remember much of the old lore and practice not a little of it. There is no real place called *Dogtown Common* but it has its prototype in a little place near Gloucester.

Mr Mackaye, after a brief introduction, began to read the poem itself. The poem opens with a lyric description of the place and at once a poignant, haunting note is struck that sets the key for the whole story. The poem moves on in waves of feeling and of action. After the climax of each part, the same exquisite lyric note of description sounded in the opening passages, is struck again.

The quiet intensity of feeling, the wonderful lyric quality of the verse and the interest of the narrative combined to make the poem one that gripped the heart and imagination of all its hearers. Mr Mackaye's reading of the poem was remarkably fine. Some poets read their work as tho it did not interest them or any one else, but Mr Mackaye read his in a way that made it a vital thing for all who heard it.

#### Claims of professional organizations

At the meeting on Thursday morning, Mrs Evans of the Decatur public library urged every one to become a member of the A. L. A. and pointed out the help the A. L. A. can give the individual and library in return for the help the individual can give in his influence and financial aid.

Mr Carl H. Milam, secretary of the A. L. A., was the speaker of the morning. He pointed out the overwhelming demand for the consideration of library work as education. The universities and professional schools are overcrowded so the libraries are feeling this unusual demand for education in the increased demand for books and service. The people of America are not yet convinced of the importance of the service that books and libraries render. Consequently it is a very hard financial period for libraries. Librarians must get and keep a vision of what ought to be done, but they are often too busy to have such a vision.

The A. L. A. will help by its conferences, its committees will set standards in various fields and the librarian should have confidence in the reports of these committees, supplying their visions from the same. This vision they should pass on to the trustees, tho it sometimes happens that it is the trustee that has the vision.

The A. L. A. bulletins contain notes of interest to trustees as well as librarians. The vision must be passed on to the public thru the medium of good service. Every successful librarian, thru her work, furnishes help to every other librarian in the country. The library is the real educational institution. The school serves only children while the library serves both children and adults. It is most deplorable that a librarian should show a lack of interest. The library must always grasp an opportunity for special service. The problems do not belong to the A. L. A. but are to be solved by all the librarians working with the A. L. A. The librarians should remember that the A. L. A., thru its officers, is striving to bring library activities in close touch with all the other social activities.

#### As to books

The book debate was most interesting. Miss Parham opened by reviewing in a very entertaining paper a number of books (See page 593).

Mr Roden said that Wells was undoubtedly entertaining but that he was writing history at the expense of facts. The footnotes, to him, were the most humorous parts of the book, for the evidently outraged feelings of some of the commentators were quite apparent. Wells' Outline has been called the best of his novels but in spite of everything it is fascinating reading. He advised every one to read it. He doubted, however, if it would stand the test of historical measurement.

Mr Roden said that Veblen had many ingenious arguments and solutions which he discounted himself. He said that Veblen laid stress on the uselessness of any class but the producing class. It was theorizing by a master theorizer.

Dewey, he said, was hard reading as his style was difficult. He is one of the leading philosophers of the day and tho his book is a survey of former schools of philosophy, he is constantly pointing out the futility of these schools and the soundness of his doctrine. He is a pragmatist.

Mr Roden said that Wells had vision in his examination of history and Dewey in his exposition of philosophy, but that O'Higgins had the vision that has penetrated the world in so many guises, religious cults, schools of medicine, etc. O'Higgins' new system always works. He tells marvelous tales of a doctor and the wonderful cures effected. In this line, Mr Roden gave out some rather startling statements. He wondered what the world would do if the facts of life could be scientifically established and there could be no more speculation.

Mr Roden said that Strachey's Queen Victoria was a fascinating picture of the age, full of satire but without malice, and did not seem to have given offense in England except to a few. It has established a new style of biography that already has imitators.

He said Main street and Brimming cup were full of foolish people. The plot of each book is unimportant and both are dependent on character draw-

ing. Brimming cup is, without doubt, a reply to Main street, written with the purpose of showing that things are not as bad as Main street depicts them.

Fiction should be judged somewhat from the library standpoint and much that has been written to date is pernicious. The only saving grace is that most of it is such difficult reading that the people it would harm the most do not wade thru it. This is not true of such a book as Coquette, which is dangerous for young people but easy reading and with a title that attracts.

Charles T. Powlison, general secretary of the National Child Welfare association, spoke on the work they are doing and showed attractive posters they are issuing, many of interest to librarians. The Fairy Tale series in color is especially attractive and Leading men and women who have rendered invaluable services to the country is another series.

The report of the nominating committee was unanimously accepted as follows:

President, J. S. Cleavenger, University of Illinois; vice-president, E. D. Tweedell, John Crerar library; second vice-president, Dr T. W. Koch, Northwestern university; secretary, Miss Nellie Parham, Withers public library, and treasurer, Miss Zana K. Miller, Library Bureau.

Resolutions expressing appreciation of the courtesy of the University of Illinois, its library and its library club, and thanks to the musicians and to all who assisted in making the occasion a success were unanimously adopted.

Greetings were received from former presidents, Mr Charles J. Barr of Yale University library and from Mr F. K. W. Drury of Brown university.

With a very happy, gracious valedictory, Miss Lansden called on Mr Cleavenger to take the chair. He responded, asking for the good will of the association for the new year.

More than 200 persons registered.

The summer school students dined together as did those of the regular library school.

### Indiana's Thirtieth Anniversary\*

The twenty-ninth annual meeting of the Indiana library association was held at Muncie, October 26-28. The occasion was made something of a celebration of the thirtieth anniversary of the organization of the association and a number of speakers were from outside the state. Among them were Prof A. S. Root, president of A. L. A.; Dr Paul Reinsch, former Minister to China; Miss Mary Eileen Ahern, editor of *PUBLIC LIBRARIES* and Miss Alice I. Hazeltine, chief of the children's work in the St. Louis public library.

The president, Miss Mary Torrance, librarian of the Public library at Muncie, expressed a cordial welcome and called attention to the fact that the strong inspirational qualities that grow out of these meetings make for closer union and added strength, both nationally and in the state. These qualities would be intensified thru affiliation of the state with the national organization.

#### Human factor in library service

After the necessary business of the opening was disposed of, Prof Root gave a splendid address on the Human factor in library service. Prof Root said in part:

There are four essential factors in library work—the place, the books, the reader, the librarian.

We need for librarians intelligent men and women with education and vision, who can see their jobs big, and who will recruit others to the service thru their own demonstrations of its desirability.

We may criticize our profession, but we must believe in it. The librarian must be interested in the public and his work—just as a successful person in any other line.

The library profession generally will go to no greater goal than general convictions and enthusiasm carry it.

Conventions are places where aircastles are painted, where great plans are born. And whether or not these schemes

accomplish their ultimate good, depends upon those who are to carry them out.

The aim of every librarian should be to make his profession stand up as a glorious, attractive, and enriching life so that people will aspire to enter it.

Librarians must see that recruits have suitable training. Library schools will be found ready to modify programs when constructive criticism is offered.

Staff meetings should develop *esprit de corps*. The assistants should share in the new plans, new efforts of the chief. Staff meetings should be democratized—here methods and policies should be worked out.

The idea of the Library Workers association demonstrates the fact that there is an underlying feeling that privates in the ranks do not have their full rights. Train people, make them happy, give recognition to work well done.

The New York public library has a scholarship fund of \$500, divided each year among those assistants who have made the most progress during the year, and this money is used to pay the expenses of these assistants to the state meeting.

When we train good people, enlarge their capacity, and recognize their ability, then we shall keep the ranks of the profession full of the right kind of material.

At the end of Prof Root's very practical and helpful talk, there was an hour spent in friendly greeting and exchange of experiences.

#### The Far East

The evening meeting was based on a most interesting address by Dr Paul Reinsch of Washington, formerly minister to China, on America and the Far East. Dr Reinsch called attention to the great importance of the coming conference on armaments. "The position of the United States is of peculiar strength and influence—first, because of its material resources and second, because of the world-wide confidence in its justice and fairness. All nations would follow if we would only lead. If there should be future wars, men will not play parts as

\*Condensed from report by Miss Georgia G. McAfee, secretary.

in the past. The laboratories of science will decide what war will be.

"No single factor in the unsettled conditions of Europe compares in gravity with that of the Far East question. There 400,000,000 are trying to adapt themselves to western ideals. Society there has no central authority as in Japan. China, in great danger of division, is looking toward the United States with confidence and trust. Japan is demanding advantages in China which the latter resents. If each nation would say, 'We will not uphold any of our nationals in taking up property in China,' a solution might be reached. The United States has the power to lift this burden. The American conference should prevent the confirmation of dangers. People are not everywhere awake to the serious import of the conference and it is the business of the librarian to minister to this, to direct the living thought of the world. The present occasion demands their serious attention."

The address was most illuminating, thought-provoking and interesting. A get-together reception closed the evening.

#### Round Tables

On Thursday morning, the conference divided itself into various groups, according to the interests represented. A college section, with about 20 persons present, held a round-table with Miss Johanna Klingholz of Evansville college as chairman. The program was opened by Prof Root of Oberlin college with a talk on Qualifications and salaries of college librarians.

The first qualification a college librarian must have, according to Prof Root, is business ability, the ability to handle the routine machinery and deal with many people in a systematic manner. It is the first duty of a college librarian to cultivate the habit of making decisions and not procrastinating.

The second necessary qualification is the ability to organize. Here Mr Root emphasized the necessity of having a manual or code book for the library setting forth definite fixed rules so that

each assistant knows the reason for everything that is done.

The third qualification is library training: a) Because of the greater breadth of vision thereby gained; b) Because of the value of the wider acquaintance with people of your own age and experience working in the same field; c) Because it puts the librarian in a more advantageous position for advancement.

The fourth qualification of a college librarian is an intensive knowledge of books. The librarian must love books and know books. Good college background helps immensely in the field of history, literature, etc., but the real way for a college librarian to keep up with the people with whom she is dealing is to spend her evenings and spare time in studying the literature of the subjects taught in the college. The college librarian ought to be at least the equal in knowledge of all the tools used by each professor. To do that she must devote much time to systematic study.

Fifth, she must have a great knowledge and great sympathy with people. She must be able to work well with both faculty and students. With the students she must have ever a spirit of good-natured fellowship, she must treat all their simplest problems with great seriousness. With the faculty she must know her men and deal with each accordingly. She must acquaint herself with the policy of the president of the college and the board of trustees and she must be ready to see that they mould their policy for the library as it should be moulded.

Sixth, the library should be considered a department of the school just as the English department or any other department, and the librarian should rank as any other head of a department, both in faculty standing and salary. If the library is such a large department that it employs as many almost as the whole faculty, then the librarian should rank as Dean, as at Yale. Furthermore, the assistants should have a

corresponding ranking just as in the faculty. This is absolutely the only way to insure the proper standing of the library. If the assistants are ranked as stenographers and clerks, then the library is not part of the educational work; it is only a part of the machinery of administration.

In the discussion, Mr Cunningham of Terre Haute state normal school said that the librarian there had been recognized as the head of a department since 1892. He also said that the school had given library instruction from 1906-12, when it was given up, but now this instruction has been established again. He advocated strongly that Indiana require each high school to have a teacher-librarian.

Miss Estella Wolf of Indiana university gave a very interesting talk on the use of library tools by college students. Miss Wolf said that her experience led her to say that college students do not even know how to use the dictionary properly. At the opening of school, the university library had given a questionnaire to the freshmen asking: How many knew how to use a card catalog, how many could use the *Readers' Guide*, etc., closing with the question as to how many were willing to come Saturday nights to receive instruction. The results of the questionnaire showed that few students really knew anything at all about how to use a library but that many students wanted to learn and were willing to come on Saturday nights. Miss Wolf showed plainly that credit should be given to the students for the course in library instruction.

Prof Root told of the work at Oberlin, which is a two-hour course for one semester, generally taken by from 40-50 but there had been as many as 90 students in the class. The instruction was confined largely to sources of material, comparison of authorities and kinds of reference books, use of library tools and something of the value of the library itself.

Miss Klingholz told of the two-hour

course given at Evansville college for credit. Mr Lindley of Earlham college said that they gave a course there but without credit.

After considerable discussion, the conclusion was reached that a great deal of work must be done on the part of the students to receive any benefit from the course and that such work can not be required without giving credit. The ideal would be a course required of all freshmen with credit.

The problem of student help was next discussed generally, as the leader was not present. Mr Lindley, Miss Cundiff, Miss Klingholz and Miss Zana K. Miller made interesting contributions.

#### Library assistants

The library assistants' round-table was conducted by Miss Hazel Armstrong of the Terre Haute public library. The meeting was opened by a very fine paper by Miss Orpha Peters of Gary on Cultivating the library spirit. Miss Peters said in part: "Some kind of spirit, good, bad or indifferent, prevails in any store, corporation, institution or individual."

Spirit means animation, courage, vivacity, synonymous with life. Library spirit should mean all this and more. It means that sympathetic something that sends one patron away with what he wants or something he likes better. What library spirit is depends on two things: 1., Attitude of staff to the library and co-workers. 2. Attitude of staff to the general public.

There is no place on the staff for a time-server—no place for one who merely watches the clock. Gossiping is no more to be desired than in a small town. Go to the head of the department or chief librarian with any trouble.

At staff meetings, local conditions and outside interests should be discussed; this makes for happier and more efficient service.

"American machine made" method is a blessing and a blight. Applied to libraries, we have library buildings of

standard pattern, stocked with books from standard catalogs, same reference and children's room, same bulletins, etc. All these are blessings, but blight would come if members of the staffs were mere machines.

See opportunity of helping the individual to develop her particular talent. Bring in a spirit of service which permeates the whole building. It is the patron we are all working for. If you see the boss (chief librarian) coming, don't jump unless something is left undone. If you see the real boss, (the patron) coming, jump and jump as if your life depended upon it! The new way is to outguess your customers and get what they want before they know it themselves. Don't judge patrons by clothes. Don't correct or use the correct pronunciation if the patron should mispronounce it, "Service, not self," should be the motto.

Miss Abraham of the Indianapolis public library presented the idea of keeping in touch with other departments of the library. The supreme thought within the library should be growth and this requires a reasonable amount of time and a series of progressive steps. Exchange of positions between departments is most advantageous. Experiment has proved many times that such exchange gives a very perceptible increase in the amount and quality of the work in each department. The Indianapolis system includes five grades of service in addition to branch librarians. There is a constant interchange between these.

Quite a spirited discussion followed.

Library assistants' reading was presented by Miss Root of the State commission. Miss Root maintained that the assistant's reading should not be very different from that of the librarian but that assistants must read. Reading at random is not the surest way of getting results. Wise reading is guided reading.

A very satisfactory reading course has been compiled for the Indianapolis public library staff by Miss Amy Win-

slow and offers good suggestions for other staffs. A good plan is to study a special subject, particularly the literature that belongs to it.

Those in library service must be informed and must know books in all classes if they are to hold their places. Library workers must know more or less about the new books that are coming out. Book reviews in periodicals, the *Publishers Weekly* and the *A. L. A. Booklist* are just as important for assistants as for the librarians. "Read a book a week" of real merit is a worthy slogan.

Staff meetings can be helpful, especially in the discussion of new books that are being added to the library. Assistants, above all, should read books of professional interest—*PUBLIC LIBRARIES* and the *Library Journal*. The reading of magazines is necessary—a few regularly and as many others as possible. Librarians are justified in skimming popular, lighter novels but a novel of merit is worth reading. Miss Root suggested a number of the new books with which library assistants should be familiar.

Miss Cerene Ohr of the Indianapolis public library discussed staff meetings as carried on in Indianapolis. There are two groups: branch staff meetings and general staff meetings. The branch staff meetings last year took up different classes of books, had outside speakers and kept up with new books in each class, also the old-time favorites. This year they are discussing the publishers, what each stands for and the new books published by each. The staff also gives reviews on books of advertising, music, nature, etc. At smaller staff meetings, the books that are being circulated that week are discussed, also what is being purchased and why. The why is usually very important. Indianapolis has weekly book meetings where the reviews and book lists are used and discussed.

"Keeping in touch with activities outside the library" was thrown open for general discussion. Mr Rush said

that an assistant who takes part in outside activities (not during library hours) is worth watching.

A spirited, open discussion followed.

#### Work with schools

At the conference on Work with schools, the meeting was opened by a very informing address on "What the teacher expects" by Miss Gretchen Scotten, head of the English department of the Muncie high school. Miss Scotten called for close coöperation between the teacher and the librarian. Each should be a familiar figure in the domain of the other. Children should be taught how to use the library and its tools but too much help should not be given. They ought to be taught to consult the catalog and find the book themselves. In looking up magazine material, they see other things of interest which they would not find if the material is looked up for them by the library assistants.

In Muncie there is the closest coöperation. The teachers visit the library when their classes are there and the librarian visits each freshmen English class to give library instruction. The teachers follow this up with library problems to be worked out by the pupils.

Mr L. H. Hines, president of the Indiana state normal school, discussed What the public library can do for the public schools of Indiana. Mr Hines' address emphasized the value of branch libraries in schools which would also serve the adults in the neighborhood. Training for librarians and some knowledge of library science for teachers were also mentioned as essential for the best library service between library and school.

Mr O. H. Williams, supervisor of teachers' training in the State department of education, called attention to the problem confronting educators in loose thinking due to loose reading and lack of concentration. This situation is due to lack of interest on the part of patrons and parents and lack of understanding and appreciation on the

part of the school administration. Mr Williams believes that children should be given instruction in the use of the library, that this instruction should be made part of the school curriculum and that credit should be given for the work.

The discussion that followed dealt with the question as to whether the work of organizing high school libraries should be done by the librarians of the public library and whether the library or the school should bear the expense of maintaining the school libraries. Mr Hamilton said that a strong library service should cover the school service, not having the school service a separate thing. There should be one collection of books and one staff and one machinery to perform the library work for the whole city. A motion was carried providing for a committee of the association to confer with the library commission, the State board of education and the general education board, now making a survey in Indiana, on the matter of a definite program for coöperation in school work.

Miss Della M. Northey, school visitor of the State library commission, told of the few replies to a questionnaire that had been sent out to 600 schools, thus showing entire lack of organization. Little coöperation is going on, generally speaking, and there is great need for a definite program of close coöperation.

#### County libraries.

The county library section, under Miss Georgia McAfee of Evansville, had its discussion at the lunch table. For an hour and a half 18 or 20 county workers, with Miss Torrance, Miss Zana K. Miller and Mr Hamilton, discussed freely certain definite questions relating to circulation statistics, the pay of custodians, financial records, etc. Much lively discussion and difference of opinion were freely exchanged.

The afternoon meeting was held at the Commercial club where several

hundred people were present. Miss McAfee opened the discussion with a statement concerning the brief life of the county library movement in Indiana, stating that only 13 of the 92 counties are giving full county library service. Its work is yet without standardization and the great obstacle is that it is dealing with too many individuals. The county librarian needs to establish strong coöperation with county leaders in every line of activity, but particularly with the teachers.

Mrs Isaac P. Caldwell, librarian of Jennings county, talked on Coöperation with other county agencies. She spoke of the value of connecting up with the county health officer, with the rural education board, the meetings of the Farmers' Federation, etc. Publicity thru newspapers and by chambers of commerce was highly recommended. The county school attendance officer had been most helpful in finding suitable locations for county libraries. Rural churches and Sunday schools offer great opportunities for library extension to the intelligent librarian. In 1920, the 26 stations in the 11 townships of Jennings county circulated a total book stock of 4884v., 51,590 times.

Miss Esther Hamilton of Union county spoke on Records for librarian and teacher. She took the view that teachers will not take the responsibility of keeping statistics and should not be required to do so. A general discussion, in which the audience was divided, followed. Miss Northey of the Library commission spoke on relations and methods and cited examples in California, Oregon and Washington. The necessity of salvaging material already in schools and making it usable was emphasized.

"Putting in the peg for 1922" was the title under which Mr Hamilton gave a spirited charge to librarians, saying that hard, intelligent work must back up the charming smile at the desk.

At the close of the county session, Miss Alice I. Hazeltine, head of the

children's work in the St. Louis public library, read a most delightful paper on "I want a good book." Her address gave a brief resumé of some of the old and new favorites for children. She said that the shelves must be cleared of the "harmless" book, the mediocre story and only the best kept there. Children are really the best readers—many grown-ups are damaged. Poetry, hero stories and fairy tales all minister to the child's needs. The young child is not so hard to fit but the older boy and girl are very difficult. Because of this, there is all the more need for intensive effort. Books for this age should be most carefully chosen. All new titles should be carefully measured with the classics and kept only when all requirements have been met. A few of the titles recommended were: Dodge, *Every child*; Hawes, *Mutineers*; Meigs, *Master Simon's garden*; De la Mare, *The Three Mulla Mulgars*.

The trustees' round-table was led by Mrs W. A. Denny of Anderson. Mr Harry Guthrie, president of the Munie library board, gave a talk on the Library on a business basis. He named as the four fundamentals: Harmony, loyalty, giving the people their money's worth and competent librarians in charge. The discussion was brisk and helpful. There were 17 trustees present.

At four o'clock, the guests were taken for a drive over the city, during which a stop was made for tea at the Indiana state normal school and at the residence of Mrs Elizabeth C. Earle whose charming home, decorated with flowers and candles in honor of the guests, was most hospitable.

A splendid banquet on Thursday evening marked the thirtieth anniversary of the association.

Miss Ahern, who had finally capitulated to repeated requests for her presence, and Mr Cunningham, both in at the organization of the association, were present and told interesting stories of the early struggles. Miss

Ahern's letter, calling the organizers together, was read by Mr Cunningham. Few people live to see a dream so fulfilled, and Miss Ahern was looking far ahead when she set the library machinery going in Indiana. She was the honored guest thruout the meeting.

The music of the evening was delightful, as it was, in fact, thruout the meetings.

The meeting on Friday morning was devoted to a discussion of problems. Miss Wolf of Indiana university presented the matter of publishing a subject-heading volume to be used by small libraries. After a discussion by Mrs Tweedie, Miss Abraham and others, it was decided that such a subject heading treatise is not needed, as the A. L. A. and other tools are sufficient.

#### Relation to business

Mr E. H. Hyman, secretary of the Muncie chamber of commerce, gave a very vigorous talk on the Library and business. He said that the business man does not realize the value of the library, as a rule, because the public library doesn't interest itself in the business man. This interest may be created, first, by visiting merchants personally and second, by giving the merchant and his clerks, books on salesmanship. "Sell" the library to the business man. Have a book for every business emergency.

#### Publicity

Miss Gretta M. Smith of the Publicity department of the Indianapolis public library, gave a comprehensive and most interesting account of the work done in Indianapolis last year. The papers had printed 1480 publicity items which included lists of new books, exhibits, library teas, stories from the reports, etc. Outside organizations and interests reached included auto shows, clubs, concerts and teachers' institutes. Signs on street cars were found useful, as were bulletins in dressing rooms at theaters and

other places. An atmosphere of friendly welcome at the library and its branches had been helpful. Following the advice of the A. L. A. committee last year, letters were sent to conventions inviting visitors to see and use the library.

Distribution of lists for teachers and bulletin board announcements were helpful. Proof of progress was found in the increase in use. The business of the circulation department had increased 17 per cent, the branches, 14 per cent, reading rooms, 27 per cent, reference department, 34 per cent and the business branch, 35 per cent. Miss Smith had interesting samples of the publicity work to give point to her address.

At the business meeting, a new membership of 80 names was announced. The report from the committee on education was most interesting and if followed, will lead to advancement of the library interests of the state. The report will be given in full in the *Occurrent*. The association voted affiliation with the American Library Association.

A balance on hand from the war work of \$32 was voted to the I. L. A. endowment fund and \$25 was voted by the association toward the purchase of the Fauntleroy home at New Harmony.

Resolutions of appreciation for the courtesy and hospitality of Muncie shown the visiting librarians were passed.

The following officers were elected: President, Winifred F. Ticer, Huntington; vice-president, Alice D. Stevens, Logansport; secretary, Elizabeth Ohr, Indianapolis; treasurer, Bertha Ashby, Ladoga; delegate to A. L. A. Council, Winifred F. Ticer; alternate, William J. Hamilton.

The registration showed an attendance of over 300 during the session. There was fine space for exhibits and a very creditable showing was made by the library supply firms and book sellers.

### Library Meetings

**Georgia**—The Georgia library association held its annual meeting in Albany, October 26-27. It was the first time that the association had ever met south of Atlanta, altho most of the public libraries in the state are in south Georgia. There was an attendance of 21 librarians, representing 13 public libraries, 4 college libraries, the state library and the library commission. In addition, there were 4 library trustees present, the chairman of the State library commission and two club chairmen, making a total attendance of 28 people.

At the first session, Miss Nell Reese, librarian of the State agricultural college, gave a talk on Books on home planning and household decoration, telling of the collection on this subject in her library which is used by the students in home economics. Miss Reese distributed valuable bibliographies, one, a selected list of books on the subject and the other, a list of material, mostly in pamphlet form, that can be obtained free.

Reports from the librarians proved to be most profitable, as the special features of the work of the different libraries were brought out and provoked interesting discussion. From the reports given, it seems that five counties in the state are operating county library systems, the most complete organizations existing in Crisp and Ben Hill counties. A unique method of distribution has been developed in these counties, which consists of using sacks to send the books in, instead of boxes, the sacks being sent out by parcel post.

Mrs John K. Ottley, chairman of the State library commission, presided at a meeting where the discussion centered around the subject of the library and the community, with special reference to the relation of the club women to the library movement. A number of interesting trustees spoke.

The Thursday meeting was devoted to practical demonstrations of phases of library work. Charlotte Templeton,

secretary of the Library commission, talked on advertising, pointing out what was effective advertising and showing examples of good newspaper publicity of libraries in the state. Susie Lee Crumley, principal of the Atlanta library school, gave a mending demonstration, showing the different processes and materials to be used. Loretta Chappell, children's librarian of the Columbus public library, talked on organizing work with children, showing a collection of excellent printed aids. The session ended with an Uncle Remus story by Miss Chappell.

In the discussion of the county library, Mrs R. G. Hall of Cuthbert gave the results of a very complete survey which she had made of book conditions in Randolph county where she found that many schools had no library at all, the text books being the only books to which the children had access. With a view to arousing some interest, she had sent a letter to each teacher suggesting that a library day be held during children's week and enclosing a program with the material for carrying it out. She hoped that the stimulation of interest coming from this, together with the influence of the books loaned by the State library commission, would result in a concerted effort to establish a county serving library. Mrs Gordy, librarian of the Columbus public library, told how she got her county appropriation; Louise Bercaw, librarian of the Cordele public library, described her library exhibit at the county fair; and Louise Smith, librarian of the Fitzgerald public library, described her method of book delivery, using sacks and the parcel post instead of cases and the express.

The following was passed:

Be it resolved, That the Georgia library association is heartily in favor of a second conference of Southeastern librarians, to be held in the fall of 1922, preferably at Signal Mountain Inn, Chattanooga, Tenn., which proved to be so enjoyable a place for the meeting of 1920.

The following officers were elected: President, C. Seymour Thompson, librarian, Savannah public library; first vice-president, Charlotte Templeton, secretary, Georgia library commission; second vice-president, Mrs Corinne Gordy, librarian, Columbus public library; secretary-treasurer, Louise Ber-  
caw, librarian, Cordele public library.

The hospitality extended by Albany was very delightful.

**Kansas**—The annual meeting of the Kansas library association was held at Hutchinson, October 17-20. The meeting had the largest attendance of librarians and trustees in the history of the K. L. A., there being 100 registered and 84 present every day. The program was interesting and inspiring and the hospitality of Hutchinson much enjoyed and appreciated.

"A Word of Welcome" was given by the president of the Hutchinson library board, Mrs F. D. Wolcott, to which the president, Miss Lee, responded. The address of the evening was by Chancellor E. H. Lindley of K. U., his subject being "Wealth." Dr Lindley said in part that wealth has a physical, intellectual, social and moral value and that the librarians were dealing with a very important form of wealth. The whole address was one of inspiration.

The report of the committee on legislation was given on Tuesday morning by W. H. Kerr, chairman.

Much appreciation was expressed of the committee on legislation in getting passed at the 1921 session of the legislature, the county library law and the increase in library tax for cities of the second and third class. A helpful discussion was led by Miss Nora Daniel.

Mr Lucht spoke on "Raising the standard of librarianship." He said that librarians should have a standard the same as doctors and lawyers and he advocated a tentative plan by which librarians might obtain first, second or third class certificates. So strong was Mr Lucht's appeal that a committee of five was appointed to bring in a report

at the next K. L. A. meeting giving a standard of certification of librarianship in Kansas, for consideration and adoption.

At the noon luncheon the librarians were divided into groups and held round-table discussions of their particular line. The leaders were J. B. Heffelfinger of Arkansas City for the trustees table, Miss Alice Isley of Wichita at the college table, Miss Mable Parks of Hutchinson at the school table, and Mrs Jessie D. Huston of Winfield at the public library table.

Tuesday afternoon, Mrs Minnie J. Grinstead of Liberal, spoke in an interesting manner on the "Influence of the public library in the community."

J. B. Heffelfinger gave a very informing talk on Apportioning the budget, saying that 44 to 54 per cent of the library income should be spent for librarian's salaries and 12 to 16 per cent should be spent for books.

At eight p. m. an address on the "Renaissance of reading" was given by Frederick G. Melcher of the *Publishers Weekly* of New York City. Following the address, Mr Melcher showed a motion picture film of the work of the American committee for devastated France in establishing libraries.

On Wednesday morning, Miss Lee gave her address, full of helpful suggestions, and outlined a definite program which the association should undertake in order that it function as it should. Some of these suggestions were a revision of the constitution, a standing publicity committee, a permanent committee on the appraisal of subscription books, the organization of a Kansas library commission and an exchange of librarians for several months or a year.

This was followed by business reports.

It was voted to affiliate with the A. L. A.

The roll call on Wednesday afternoon was responded to by one minute speeches on "The most noteworthy book received in my library during the

past year." The afternoon program was devoted to books and reading. Miss Miriam Clay read a most excellent paper on "Selection of books for children." This was followed by an address on "Religious books in the public library" by Rev Seward Baker of Hutchinson.

Mrs McGaughey spoke briefly on encouraging children's reading and Miss Romig told what they had done and what they were planning to do for Children's Book Week in Abilene.

It was voted to accept the invitation of St. Joseph, Mo., to meet in joint session with Missouri, Iowa and Nebraska, for the meeting in 1922.

Wednesday evening was enjoyed in a very delightful banquet and dance at the Country club, given by the Hutchinson Public Library board.

Mrs Dora Kershner told the librarians, Thursday morning, how to take care of and mend their books—which was followed by a demonstration. Mrs Florence Cass read a paper on "The Librarian's own reading," postponed from Wednesday. Mrs Cass urged the librarians to read more and said that every librarian should belong to some study club and take part on the program. She ended her paper with these significant words: "Whatsoever books are true, whatsoever books are honest, whatsoever books are just, whatsoever books are pure, whatsoever books are lovely, whatsoever books are of good report, if there be any virtue and if there be any praise, think on these books."

Mrs Delia Brown of Salina was then given a short time for her question box, which brought out many problems of librarians.

There were exhibits by Gaylord of Springfield, Mass., Library Bureau and the A. L. A.

Resolutions of thanks for hospitality and good service were adopted. Good music was furnished at various times and also a ride about Hutchinson by the kindness of the citizens.

The following officers were elected: President, W. H. Kerr; vice-president, Mrs Delia Brown; secretary, Mable Parks; treasurer, Odella Nation; member-at-large, Lida Romig.

ROBERTA T. MCKOWAN,  
Secretary.

**Kentucky**—The Kentucky library association met at Mammoth Cave, October 13-14. It was a most unusual conference. Mammoth Cave itself is a queer old place and its unique effect on every one gave a peculiar, lasting impression to all details of the conference. Furthermore, one felt the added impression of being in Kentucky, Kentucky hills and Kentucky's brilliant fall colors, with the hospitality of Kentucky folks.

The meeting was preceded by an outdoor lunch picnic in the sunshiny open field back of the hotel and one realized, as one had never done before, how much there really is besides the words in the strains of "My old Kentucky home."

A cozy little room with a wood stove in the hotel was used for the sessions when it was not possible to have them outdoors. The address of welcome, made by Miss Florence Edwards of Horse Cave, had the usual Kentucky sparkle. Mr George T. Settle, librarian of the Louisville public library, in his response illustrated the dignity of the profession.

The president's address, Why a state library association, by Miss Florence Ragland of Bowling Green, pointed out the power there is in *esprit de corps*, the confidence that is generated by meeting others interested in the same work and the help that comes from hearing fellow-workers present their problems.

An address on Books and culture by James Watt Raine, professor of English language and literature at Berea college, was a good presentation of the importance of the distribution of good books, particularly in backward communities.

A symposium followed relating to books most in demand at public libraries in the United States, under the

direction of Miss Elizabeth Tunis of Danville. The usual books under discussion at this time, Main street, the Brimming cup, Mirrors of Downing street, Age of innocence, O'Brien's Shadows, Margot Asquith, Queen Victoria, If winter comes and two or three others were presented favorably or unfavorably, according to the ideas of the speakers, and much discussion followed.

The session at night opened with "Literary what-nots," presented by Charles E. Rush, librarian of the Indianapolis public library. Mr Rush dealt with libraries in the home and libraries in the community. He pointed out, by special illustrations, the effect of books in the development of character, quoting liberally from prominent persons whose minds and characters had been shaped by their reading. Mr Rush said that just any reading was not healthful and that good reading is necessary.

"Students and books" was presented by A. M. Stickles, professor of history in the Western state normal school at Bowling Green. This was characterized as a very good presentation, charming in style and full of thought because of some interesting survey reports on the reading of students.

The State superintendent of public instruction was to have discussed "Understandest thou that thou readest?" but being unable to be present, he sent J. L. Harman, president of the Business university in Bowling Green, whose talk on Kentucky's need of books and education made a stirring appeal to the librarians who are well equipped to help those communities that are lagging behind. There is great need for books and education in many parts of the state.

One of the best meetings during the session was the conference of college and school libraries. This meeting was held in an open court in front of the hotel, with the members sitting in the warm sunshine and, as was expressed, the speakers were "on their

toes" all of the time. They had "ease of speech and they said good things, too."

Miss Jennie Flexner of Louisville was the leader, reporting on large libraries. Miss Harriett Boswell of the Public library of Paducah, told of her experiences in training schools to use the library. The elementary school was discussed by Susannah Bishop, librarian of the Public library in Owensboro. The ways and means of connection between the high school library and the public library were presented by Miss Edna Grauman, librarian of the Louisville Male high school. The work of the university library was presented by Miss Amy Allen, head cataloger at Kentucky university. She distributed a list that she had found helpful in interesting the students in the library.

"College and school libraries" was presented by Miss Euphemia Corwin, librarian of Berea college. Various ones were called on for discussion of the topics: Staff organization, Should a college purchase fiction, Care of reserved books and prevention of unauthorized borrowing, Inventory—how often, Discipline and Relation of the library to the faculty.

This last discussion was held under a big persimmon tree at the edge of the yard and between talks the company picked up and knocked off persimmons. Some of the fruit was good, others—not so very.

Every one regretted that sudden illness prevented Miss Fannie Rawson from being present at the last moment. Her place was taken by Miss Beverly Wheatcroft, her assistant. However, Miss Rawson had prepared the discussion which she was to have lead on Friday morning on Small libraries and it went off with vim.

The value of book reviews was presented by Miss Florence Edwards of Horse Cave. Loan work routine was discussed by Miss Beverly Wheatcroft. The woman's club and the library was presented by Mrs Massie Allen of Bloomfield and Work for the

library board, the topic assigned to Mrs Mattie Henderson of Georgetown, contained many helpful suggestions.

The usual business was transacted on Friday. The association voted to join the A. L. A. as a chapter and elected Miss Euphemia K. Corwin of Berea college as president for the coming year. It is likely that the next meeting will be held at Berea college.

One thing could be said of the meeting—that there was much "atmosphere." It certainly was a good conference! There were two post-meeting trips thru Mammoth Cave and every one was particularly delighted with the recent discovery, Onyx cave, a veritable fairyland of beauty.

There were some attendant elements not usually shown at library meetings—perhaps on account of having the meeting out-of-doors and the environment. The meetings were attended and occasionally delightfully interrupted by old-time darkies and quaint Kentucky hill characters. There were pet roosters to perform, geese, trained horses, cats, falling persimmons, an overheated stove and other interpolations.

**Massachusetts**—The Bay Path library club held its autumn meeting in Webster in the new Corbin Memorial library building, October 20, 1921, with a registered attendance of 68, Miss Emily Haynes, presiding.

Mr Clarence Nash, chairman of the Webster public library, welcomed the club and gave a brief sketch of the Chester C. Corbin Memorial foundation.

The book reviews were in charge of Miss Barbara Smith of the Levi Heywood memorial library, Gardner. Comment and discussion were very informal, and the hour spent in book reviews proved both interesting and helpful.

The first number on the afternoon program was a paper by Miss Eva March Tappan, entitled "On building Americanism in the hearts of boys and girls thru books." It was a great dis-

appointment to the club to learn that Miss Tappan was ill and unable to be present; but Robert K. Shaw of the Worcester public library, read Miss Tappan's paper most acceptably.

The Rev Herbert E. Lombard of Webster then gave a talk on "Book-plates," exhibiting many specimens and explaining the good and bad points of each. He advocated bookplates for library books, maintaining that a bookplate increased the respect in which books were held by the patrons of the library.

A vote of thanks was given to the librarian, staff and all who had contributed to make the meeting a success.

It was voted to send to Miss Tappan a resolution regretting her illness and thanking her for allowing her paper to be read.

MABEL E. KNOWLTON,  
Secretary.

**Michigan**—The Michigan library association met in Detroit, October 5-7, 1921. There was a registration of 244. The meetings were held in the new library building.

To see this beautiful building and to visit its departments and observe their methods was one of the objects of the meeting. This opportunity was fully appreciated by all present and many expressions of admiration were heard on all sides.

Mr Adam Strohm, the librarian, welcomed the association and told a little of the history of the new building. The president made a fitting response.

The Round-table committee reported that with only \$275 to spend, eight meetings had been held touching 70 libraries. They had also sent a representative to the meeting of the Upper Peninsula association.

Mr D. B. Duffield, president of the Detroit library commission told of the attempt of the commission to secure from the last legislature, a bill for a Library retirement fund. The theory of the fund set out, that there shall be contributed from year to year a sum of money which, at the end of a fixed

period, will produce and will give in hand a sum of money, which at the agreed rate of interest, five or six per cent, will produce, by careful investment, the amount of one's retired pay. He said that the public should contribute a certain portion of the sum and that whatever is contributed by the individual, should belong to that individual under certain conditions. That is, if a member resigned and retired from the library field before the age specified, the amount he had contributed, with its accumulations, should belong to the individual but not the part contributed by the public. He thought it should not be obligatory. The bill introduced failed to pass because the Detroit Common council was opposed to it, thinking it would lead to retired pay for everybody in the public service, and because the Legislature considered it simply a Detroit measure. If the librarians of the state desire such a bill they should take it up in such a way that it would come from all over the state and not appear to be a local measure.

Mr Ranck, chairman of the legislative committee, said that so far as legislation is concerned, the last session of the Legislature made conditions for getting adequate library service to the larger half of the people of the state a little worse than they were before.

Lent P. Upson, director of the Bureau of government research, Detroit, explained the position of the Bureau and showed where some of the action taken was the result of its recommendations but not in accordance with it.

The debate was very animated and was closed by directing the committee on resolutions to prepare a memorial to be sent to the governor and to the Administrative board of the state of Michigan.

The address, Wednesday evening, was by Mr Azariah S. Root, librarian of Oberlin College library, and president of the A. L. A.

Among other things he said that he

was much impressed by that sentence in one of Edna Ferber's books "Personality Plus." "That, it seems to me, is the sort of thing we librarians need. We need to throw into our work every ounce of interest, every ounce of personal response, every particle of personal magnetism and personal influence that we have in order that the person with whom we are dealing shall feel that we are profoundly interested in finding out exactly the thing that he wants." He closed his inspiring address by saying, "So, then, this is my message: Librarianship, far more than we have hitherto realized, depends not on mechanism, not on systems, and not on scales, but it depends on you and on me, the individual librarians of the country. We can make librarianship stand up as such a glorious and attractive and enriching life that men and women everywhere shall aspire to enter into it. Let that be our aim for the future."

After the address, the company scattered to inspect the building and were served with refreshments in the library cafeteria.

On Thursday morning, Mr George B. Utley, librarian of the Newberry library, Chicago, spoke on "Topics for library meetings: What subjects are most worth while?"

He urged that more space on the program be given for discussion. He said that some of the strong doctrinal points that have proved most valuable have been brought out during informal discussions. While it has been claimed that it is not possible to have profitable discussion in a large meeting, he said that tho it was more difficult, it was not impossible, and spoke of the habit of persons attending A. L. A. meetings of slipping out during the reading of a paper and coming back afterward while it was being discussed. He spoke of a meeting he attended in England at which there was a large number of trustees and where the discussions grow very warm. He said trustees wanted something else

than to hear librarians talk. The object of attending a meeting is to get inspiration and that should not be temporary but something that should be vital six months afterward. Discussion spontaneously arising is more likely to be remembered. That topic is most worth while which best lends itself to discussion.

Many papers should be prepared for publication instead of for reading.

Shall the speakers be from within or without the profession? There should be some outside speakers but they should speak on their own subject not on library technic or simply tell what good librarians we are.

"Then," he said, "let us have more books on our programs. The public expects us to know about books and when we say anything about books we are listened to. We need not be afraid of a book everyone has read, for people like to talk of books they have read just as they like to read of places they have visited."

Following this talk, a series of round-tables were held at which circulation and loan problems, general administrative problems, new books and technical books were discussed.

In the afternoon, an opportunity was given to visit some of the branch libraries, the Ford Motor factory, the Pewabic Pottery, the Detroit *News*, and other points of interest. At four-thirty all assembled at the MacGregor public library in Highland Park for tea. In addition to enjoying the hospitality of Miss Sleneau, her library board and the library staff, an unusual opportunity was given to see a library which had been built up from the beginning in two years.

On Friday morning, the association had the privilege of hearing C. M. Burton, consulting librarian of the Burton historical collection of the Detroit public library, speak on, "Know your country." He told of the beginnings of his collection and how it had grown, some of the difficulties encountered and how facilities for reproducing copies

had been greatly improved. He also told of his ambition to have everything in Detroit about Detroit history so that one need not go all over the state for needed information. In conclusion he said, "Can any man be happier than I am in the knowledge that the results of this play of half a century is housed and made accessible?" Following his talk, Mr Strohm made a motion that Mr Burton be made an honorary life member of the association, which was unanimously carried.

A business session followed Mr Burton's talk and the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President, Flora B. Roberts of Kalamazoo; first vice-president, Agnes Jewell of Adrian; second vice-president, Jessie C. Chase of Detroit; secretary, Earl W. Browning of Jackson; treasurer, Rose Ball of Albion college.

The committee on resolutions reported as follows:

The first five resolutions expressed appreciation and thanks to those who had assisted in the program or provided entertainment for the meeting.

Other resolutions passed were:

Relating to the death of Mrs Annie F. MacDonnell; appealing to the state administration in behalf of the library interests of the state; relating to a campaign of education and information looking toward legislation for better library service; expressing opposition to the abolishment of the use of penal fines for library purposes without concurrent adequate substitute for library support; favoring a retirement fund for librarians; commanding the county library service inaugurated by the Detroit library commission and urging the extension of that policy for such work thruout the state.

This report was accepted and the recommendations adopted.

MARY E. DOW,  
Secretary.

**Missouri**—The Missouri library association held its twenty-first annual conference at Ha Ha Tonka, October 17-19. Ha Ha Tonka is in the center of the

Ozark mountains, 25 miles from the nearest railroad. It is, perhaps, the most beautiful spot in Missouri. Members attending were housed in cottages and feasted together on fried chicken and other good things in a common dining room. The meetings were all held outdoors, the last night around a camp fire in the woods. The afternoons were given up to hikes. The perfect October weather and the wide variety of the scenery and natural attractions of the country added greatly to the pleasure of the conference. Ha Ha Tonka is in a district which it has been proposed to make a state park. Near the camp was a beautiful lake covered, in part, by water cress. There was a precipitous canyon about 300 feet high which furnished some difficult climbing and wonderful views of autumn foliage. A large part of this region consisting of approximately eight square miles, is cut up by caves and underground rivers.

On the second afternoon, the librarians went into one of the largest of these caves, thru a long narrow passage; then across the river Styx in a flat-bottomed, leaky boat and came to an immense cave with most interesting geological formations. This may seem like an account of a mere outing but it was this environment, which made the sessions so satisfactory and enabled those attending to discuss their library problems with each other on a delightfully familiar basis.

Two sessions were given up to publicity problems. In the first session, Alfonso Johnson, business manager of the Columbia *Evening Missourian*, dealt with the topic "Publicity in a small library." The Columbia *Evening Missourian* was established by graduates of the school of journalism of the University of Missouri and is almost entirely administered by students of the school. Mr Johnson has had wide newspaper and publicity experience in this country and in Japan. His suggestions were thoroly practical, emphasizing close coöperation with local papers, the necessity of librarians preparing copy in a presentable form and the need for closest personal

contact between the librarian and her patrons in supplementing all other methods of publicity. Miss Sarah N. Findley, librarian of Lindenwood college, spoke on "Publicity for the college, normal and university libraries," describing methods which she had used, both inside and outside the library, in interesting the students in better reading.

On Tuesday morning, Mr Johnson addressed the librarians on a "Book week in Missouri." Among other methods which he recommended were coöperation of booksellers and newspapers, obtaining free advertising space in newspapers, open house in the library (which he especially favored), the coöperation of schools and churches with the library and a library float. After a discussion of this topic, in which many took part, a resolution was passed unanimously that a book week be held in Missouri and that a committee be appointed by the president to carry this out.

James A. McMillen, chairman of the committee, brought in a comprehensive report on certification for librarians, making definite recommendations for such a plan in Missouri. The committee was continued and instructed to bring before the association at its meeting in 1922 a further report with a draft of a bill to be presented to the legislature in 1923.

On Tuesday evening, J. Kelly Wright, Farmer's Institute lecturer of the State board of agriculture, gave an interesting illustrated lecture on Missouri. This was given outdoors with the curtain hung between two trees. Perhaps the most important session was held on Wednesday morning and was opened by Mr Purd B. Wright in his address on "What next in county library development?" Mr Wright was most active in obtaining the passage of a county library law at the last session of the Missouri legislature and his suggestions of what is now needed to put county libraries in operation in Missouri as rapidly as possible were stimulating.

Irving R. Bundy, secretary of the

Missouri library commission, reported on counties which were already taking preliminary steps toward the establishment of county libraries. He said that the plan of the A. L. A. for having a library book truck as a means of arousing communities to see the need of county libraries did not at present seem practical in this state but after the movement was a little farther along he thought it not unlikely that such a truck would prove an excellent publicity method in getting county libraries established. It was voted that a committee be appointed by the president to assist Mr Bundy in spreading the county library idea thruout the state. There was an extended discussion on county libraries and a great deal of interest shown.

Miss Alice I. Hazeltine of the St. Louis public library, presided during four-minute book reviews in which the following books were discussed:

"When winter comes," by Miss Janice Agee, of the St. Joseph public library.

"Dust," by Miss Blanche L. Hawks, and "The man who did the right thing," by Miss Mary A. Osgood, both of the Kansas City public library.

"What happened to Inger Johanne," by Miss Synnove Larsen, a student of the St. Louis Public Library school, on leave from the Christiania public library.

Conrad's "The Rescue," by Miss Grace Barnes of the University of Missouri library.

"Mirrors of Downing Street," by Dr Bostwick.

"The Ozark Uplift" by Mr Wright.

These reviews were one of the best parts of the program.

On Wednesday evening, Miss Sula Wagner of the St. Louis public library, gave an interesting and comprehensive survey of "Public library progress in Missouri," while Mr McMillen gave a corresponding survey of college and university library progress in Missouri. It was voted that copies be sent to the State library commission in order to maintain as complete a permanent record of the library history of the state as possible.

Following this, stories were told around the camp-fire, by Miss Ayres, Miss Hazeltine, Dr Bostwick, Mr Wright, Miss Larsen and Mr Severance.

Much credit is due Mr Severance, the president, who chose the site and, in spite of adverse public opinion, decided on going so far from civilization to hold the library conference. The weather man was good to him and those attending will always be grateful to him for, perhaps, the most enjoyable library conference ever held in Missouri.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Irving R. Bundy, president; Miss Sula Wagner, first vice-president; Miss Mary A. Ayres, second vice-president; Miss Jane Morey, secretary; Miss Artie West, treasurer.

CHARLES H. COMPTON.

**Nebraska**—The twenty-seventh annual meeting of the Nebraska library association was held in Grand Island, October 13-17, with a good attendance from all parts of the state, including trustees as well as librarians.

Some progress has been made in the direction of county libraries, altho none have been organized at the present time. Miss Jessie Glass, librarian of the Lincoln high-school, reported that the publicity committee, appointed at the last meeting, had sent letters to all of the county superintendents in the state, in an effort to arouse interest in county libraries. Only a small percentage responded, and lack of funds prevented a further effort.

Miss Anna V. Jennings, librarian at the Kearney normal school, reported that a list of books for elementary schools, particularly selected for use in rural districts, has been compiled by herself and Miss Lila Bowen of the Extension department of the Omaha public library. This list was to have been printed by the State department of education, but since lack of funds prevented, it was made a bulletin of the Nebraska State teachers' college, at Kearney.

Much time was devoted to a discussion of rural problems in Nebraska, since library service is so inadequate for such communities. The subject was discussed from the standpoint of the county superintendent of schools, the county agent, the farmer and the librarian, in very helpful and inspiring talks. Prof J. O. Rankin of the State university gave statistics compiled from a survey showing the amount and kind of reading matter in farm homes of the state. Prof H. C. Filley of the State university, gave an excellent list of books on farm economics, in the course of an inspiring talk on "The farmer and the library."

The program included a round-table for trustees where there were very helpful discussions of current problems.

The association was fortunate in its visitors this year. Keene Abbott, Nebraska author, gave a very delightful reading of his story, "The Wind-fighters," a keen and beautiful appreciation of life on the plains in the early days. The story may be found in *The Outlook* for January 12, 1916.

Frederic G. Melcher of New York gave an inspiring talk, a Book Renaissance, especially interesting to those far from the center of book publishing.

Nebraska will coöperate with Missouri, Iowa and Kansas in an effort to have an inter-state library meeting next year. Considerable interest was also shown in plans for district meetings within the state, following the report given by Miss Nellie Williams, on the district meeting held in Fairbury last spring.

A committee was appointed to carry on the publicity work started during the past year. An attempt will be made to interest an influential citizen in each congressional district of the state, and to work thru him. The ultimate aim is the county library.

Nebraska voted to apply for affiliation with the A. L. A. under the new ruling. A campaign for A. L. A. membership among the librarians in the state will be made.

Officers for the coming year:

President, Loretta Murphy, North Platte; first vice-president, Mrs Merlyn Anderson, Beatrice; second vice-president, Sara Gosselink, Fremont; secretary-treasurer, Czarina M. Hall, Omaha.

**CZARINA M. HALL,**  
Secretary.

**New Hampshire**—The thirty-second annual meeting of the New Hampshire library association was held at Keene, October 13-14. The attendance was unusually large, over 53 librarians and trustees being registered, and the sessions were attended by many of the townspeople.

It was voted that the New Hampshire library association should become a chapter of the A. L. A. It was voted to amend the constitution to include a new membership program with contributing, life, sustaining, associate and regular memberships. Mayor Orville E. Cain welcomed the association to the city. The welcome for the library was given by Dr H. R. Faulkner.

Mrs Evelyn Warren of Townsend, Mass., gave an interesting and instructive talk on the "Duties and rewards of a village librarian." In brief notes on recent books, Mrs Thomas Marble of Gorham discussed recent fiction. Miss Alice Jordan of the Boston public library gave a valuable half-hour on children's books. Miss Winifred Tuttle of Manchester gave a spirited talk on non-fiction.

Judge Henry A. Shute of Exeter was the speaker of the evening and the readings from his own works were much enjoyed. On Friday morning, Mr J. Randolph Coolidge, Jr., spoke on "The trustee's trust." Following his address Willard P. Lewis of Durham discussed "Certification and standardization of libraries and librarians."

A committee consisting of Willard P. Lewis, Durham, Miss F. Mabel Winchell, Manchester, Miss Grace E. Kingsland, Concord, was appointed to report a plan for New Hampshire. Miss Kingsland announced that a

friend of the association had given the necessary funds for the establishment of a scholarship which will pay the expenses of some small-town librarian to the annual meeting and to the summer school.

The following officers were elected:

President, Caroline B. Clement, Manchester; first vice-president, Mrs. Lillian Wadleigh, Meredith; second vice-president, Willard P. Lewis, Durham; secretary, Winifred Tuttle, Manchester; treasurer, Annabel C. Secombe, Milford.

Mention should be made of the interesting exhibits shown by the Library Bureau and the H. R. Hunting Co. of Springfield. The A. L. A. binding exhibit was very instructive. The commission had interesting exhibits of free material and suggestions for Good Book Week.

A trip to Peterborough and a visit to the Macdowell colony gave a rare opportunity and one that will be long remembered by those who went.

SARAH G. GILMORE.

**Ohio**—The twenty-seventh annual meeting of the Ohio library association was held at Yellow Springs, October 17-20. The atmosphere of the historic environment of Antioch college permeated the place. It will be remembered that the first president of this college, Horace Mann, was an early advocate of public education and the place is filled with memories of the literary associations and traditions of him and the early pioneers in education. The new president, Arthur E. Morgan, is exercising a wise leadership into fields of culture and vocational education.

Over 280 persons registered. Headquarters were in the girls' dormitory, but the citizens opened their homes to the guests of the meeting. The cordial hospitality in evidence everywhere contributed much to the pleasure and success of the meeting.

The first meeting was held on Monday afternoon with Mr. Carl P. P. Vitz of Cleveland in the chair. President

Morgan of Antioch college gave a cordial address of welcome and spoke of the plans for the future work of the college.

In his address, President Vitz showed the need of future library extension. In the past, the library has demonstrated its work in the war service, the bookselling field, the book store on wheels, clubs, industries, business men's clubs, schools, etc. An increased respect for books has followed—more books, books printed in newspapers and more demand for books by all classes of people. He referred to the new Ohio county library bill, to the necessity of the leadership of the librarian and of the state association in the community. He closed with a quotation from Horace Mann's final commencement address made in the same room in 1859, "Be ashamed to die until you have won some victory for humanity."

A reception followed the evening session.

A business session was held early on Tuesday morning, followed by an auto trip provided by the citizens of Yellow Springs to the gorge.

A paper by Gilbert O. Ward, technical librarian of Cleveland, on Planning to make the library known, attracted much interest. Mr. Ward had prepared a screen exhibit full of helpful suggestions for selling the library.

Louise E. Grant of the Akron public library spoke of the relations between the special library, local industry and the public library. She advised that the training schools confine their attention to fundamentals, for each librarian must work out her own problems. Service is the main consideration and there should be close coöperation between the public library and the industries of a community.

A joint meeting with the local library association was held in the afternoon. The principal speaker was Dr. H. W. Van Loon, professor of history at Antioch college and author of

a number of books on history. His address, *Eyes and ears and history*, was a most interesting, practical demonstration of his method of teaching history with the help of colored crayons.

On Tuesday evening, Miss Lucy E. Keeler, author, essayist and library trustee of Fremont, talked most interestingly on *Listeners in literature*. It was delightful, personal reminiscences of places, authors and books, of Antioch college, of Boston, Sara Orne Jewett, Ambassador and Mrs Bryce, Main street in Fremont, religious books, new books, modern poetry. Zona Gale, Edna St. Vincent Millay, Robert Frost and other literary people and things. Miss Keeler passed on to her listeners in a most entertaining fashion one thought given to her by her father when she first began to read—"Always remember one thing from every book you read."

Miss E. Gertrude Avey, children's librarian of the Cincinnati public library, presented a list of 23 recent juvenile books and discussed each book from her personal knowledge of children's literature. Quite an animated discussion by various librarians followed.

Wednesday morning was given over to sectional meetings. They were all well attended, well planned and there was much interest shown in the discussions.

In the trustees' meeting on Wednesday afternoon, the Problem of meeting the limited income was presented by Herbert S. Hirshberg of Toledo, Miss Electra C. Doren of Dayton and by Mr. Vitz who spoke for the Lakewood public library. All of these represented entirely different libraries, so far as the source of support is concerned.

Miss Grace Stingley, county librarian of Rochester, Indiana, presented a paper on a Survey for service, followed by Miss Corinne Metz, county librarian of Allen county, Indiana, on Transplanting of a Buckeye. This was a veritable saga of the author's experience in organizing libraries in Wasco

county, Oregon, where she spent six years in organizing, establishing and administering a county library system.

The alumni of the different library schools had dinner together on Wednesday evening.

Another interesting address was that given by the president of the A. L. A., Prof A. S. Root of Oberlin college. Mr Root emphasized the need of recruits in the library profession, the necessity for adequate training, the duty of those now in the profession in making librarianship attractive and insisted that the whole future of the library profession depends on the human factor.

The evening closed by Susan Gaspell's play, *Suppressed desires*, cleverly presented by the Library players of Cleveland, who were already favorably known to the members of the association.

The Tuesday morning session was devoted to business and was well attended. Reports of the committees were the chief interest. The association received with particular interest the report of the legislative committee.

The following officers were elected: President, Ernest I. Antrim, Van Wert; first vice-president, C. W. Reeder, Columbus; second vice-president, Maude Herndon, Akron; third vice-president, Lucy E. Keeler, Fremont; secretary, Alice M. Coy, Cincinnati; treasurer, Gilbert O. Ward, Cleveland.

MARGARET DUNBAR,  
Secretary.

**Philadelphia**—The special librarians of Philadelphia and vicinity held their first meeting of the season on Friday, October 28, 1921, at the Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce.

"The library as a business asset" was the subject of an address by Henry P. Megargee, of the American Railways Association. Mr Megargee in his talk dwelt on the need for varied knowledge which exists in a public utility corporation, and the ideal manner of meeting it. The library organization

of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company was outlined, as well as the information file under his own charge. Mr Megargee believes that the potential value of a special library working in coöperation with other libraries is incalculable.

A general discussion followed, as to various methods used in meeting the needs for this specialized information.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Chairman, Louise Keller, librarian, Independence Bureau; vice-chairman, E. Mae Taylor, librarian, Philadelphia Electric Company; treasurer, Florence G. Humphreys, librarian, Corn Exchange National Bank; secretary, Helen M. Rankin, Municipal Reference division, Free library of Philadelphia.

HELEN M. RANKIN,  
Secretary.

**Utah**—The Utah library association held its ninth annual meeting, October 22, 1921, President Mary E. Downey, in the chair.

The first handbook of the association to be printed was distributed.

There were 65 in attendance, the largest number at any meeting.

In her president's address, "An eastern, a middle-west and a western problem in state library extension," Miss Mary E. Downey gave her 20 years' study of the subject, illustrated by the states of Massachusetts, Ohio and Utah, showing differences in developing state extension work in various parts of the country, due to population, classes of people, area, climate, topography and other geographic conditions, transportation, cost, effort, affiliating agencies, appropriations and departments of state thru which the work is done. She said no common pattern could be used from state to state but that there must be adaptation in every case to suit the particular conditions, and ended by telling the varying conditions in the state of North Dakota, to which she had recently gone.

Reports of progress by librarians followed from types of county, public,

corporation, secondary and normal school, college, agricultural college and university libraries. While time only could be given for samples of what might have been told by all present, this part of the program was one of the most welcome to all listeners and every one wished that each one present could have told her story, giving an illuminating example of the marvelous library development Utah has made in the last few years. Questions and discussions followed each report as made.

G. Y. Cannon, due to illness of Mr Ware to whom the topic was assigned, gave the "Essentials in a small library building," illustrating his talk by points in Utah libraries.

Miss Esther Nelson then told of State university library loan work over the state which, for the most part, is done with the university graduates teaching in high schools, and extension correspondence students. Willingness to meet any request so far as limitations permit was expressed. Discussion showed that like service was being rendered by Brigham Young University library, the county and public libraries and the Agricultural college libraries.

Mrs Robert Forrester spoke on Co-operation between the branch library and a near-by public school, in which she told of the contact of her library with an adjoining school. Lessons on the use of the library are planned and given to the children by the librarian.

Orpha Keyser showed the development of the school department of the Public library recently established in Salt Lake City.

Prof J. E. McKnight gave an able address on "What the teacher should know about a library" and then told the librarians what the teacher has a right to expect from them.

Miss Joanna H. Sprague told "What the Salt Lake library is doing for the business man." Letters were sent to people in the classified part of the city directory mentioning books in the library on their subjects and asking for

recommendations of others. The result is a greatly increased use of the books in these classes, both in the circulation and reference departments.

Julia T. Lynch gave an account of "The Spencer Clawson music collection," a memorial collection of music books, giving its history, contents and use.

Prof M. W. Poulson, speaking on "The Trustee and the library," said the library trustee should have vision to plan for the future, coöperate with the librarian, understand the value of books and libraries, realize that the communities are composed of people with varied interests, have a budget, using money for service not extravagance and see that the money be spent and not put by for "savings."

Apropos of Children's Book Week, Mrs A. C. Blanchard gave a reading from her book *Carita*, which was followed by an excellent paper on "The coming Children's Book Week" by Miss Hester Bonham.

The resolutions passed, among other things, contained the following: An expression of regret at losing Miss Downey's services; commended the fine work she had done (established 60 libraries and 13 county libraries); deplored the publication of juvenile books, the physical make-up of which tends to endanger the eyesight of children and pledged libraries to purchase and give shelf room to as little of such reading material as possible.

The following officers were elected: President, Prof M. W. Poulson, Provo; first vice-president, Miss Julia T. Lynch, Salt Lake; second vice-president, Mrs Cora Clark Stevens, Ogden; secretary-treasurer, Miss Ireta Peters, Brigham; executive board, Miss Ruth Kingsbury, Salt Lake; Miss Amy Pratt, Kaysville.

IRETA PETERS,  
Secretary.

"A Gentleman . . . one born with the Godlike capacity to think and feel for others, irrespective of their rank and condition."—Jeffery Farnol.

### Some Branch Activities

That the work of a branch is not necessarily one "monotonous grind" in the same channels, is evident from the experiences of the North End branch of the Providence public library. Here are some of the instances:

A poster, "Books about Providence," resulted in historical trips for parents and children.

Some collections of mounted, identified specimens of plants and flowers, made by boys and girls, were judged by an expert, from the Rhode Island college of education.

A colony of silk worms, producing silk in one of the library rooms, was not only watched from day to day by interested young readers, but an astonishingly heavy use of the books on this subject resulted. In connection with this, a speaker from the Natural History museum came to the branch for a very delightful talk on "How we get our silk from the cocoon."

One boy completed a book-case, modeled after that of Thomas Bailey Aldrich's "Bad boy." It is needless to say that the book itself had been read with keen enjoyment.

On October 10, the parents and friends of those who had successfully completed the summer vacation reading attended the exercises for awarding the diplomas. The winter reading clubs have resumed their weekly meetings and are going on with enthusiasm.

For several months preceding the date of the college openings, there were placed on exhibition at the branch, not only the catalogs and announcements of a rather wide range of colleges, but the college records of four or five young men (with photographs in some instances), who, beginning as readers at this branch when small children, had continued in all these years, to find it a helpful source of inspiration. A novel but effective means of stimulating interest in higher education.

W. E. F.

### Interesting Things in Print

The technical department of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh has issued the *Technical Book Review Index*, Vol. 5, No. 2.

A list of books for little tots and older boys and girls has been issued by Rand McNally & Company of Chicago. The list is classified and its contents are commendable.

An interesting article on "Linotype slugs and catalogs" by Howard S. Leach, reference librarian at Princeton university, is found in the *Scientific American* for November.

A list of 50 books for children is given in the article, How the public library instills love of good books, by Helen F. Ingersoll, head of the children's work in the Public library, Denver, Colo., in *Municipal Facts* for October.

A little booklet received is a *Syllabus* of half-hour talks to children being given in the Municipal libraries of Bristol, England, 1921-22. The notice of each lecture is followed by a selection of books illustrating the talk and the books may be borrowed from the library.

The Public library of Trenton, New Jersey, has issued a small pamphlet of 15 pages, a list of Books on business. Some of the subjects touched are: Banking, accounting, credits and collections, advertising, office administration, bookkeeping, commerce and transportation, salesmanship, commercial correspondence and business periodicals.

The Public library of Los Angeles has compiled a list of books for children to be distributed as widely as possible thruout Children's Book Week. The coöperation of stores, schools and library centers made this a successful effort. The publishers, contributing on a *pro rata* basis, financed the printing of 65,000 copies of the list.

Henry Vincent Hubbard and Theodora Kimball are authors of "Land-

scape architecture, a comprehensive classification scheme for books, plans, photographs, notes and other collected material," published by Harvard University Press. This classification was worked out primarily for use with the extensive collection of the Harvard School of Landscape Architecture library, and was eight years in the making.

Community civics for city schools by Arthur W. Dunn has its value for all kinds of schools. It is United States history told in a very interesting fashion, emphasizing civic responsibility rather than battles and burdens. As a book it has the stamp of the educational series, both in print and make-up (natural, coming from D. C. Heath & Company), but the substance is one that should form a part of the information of citizens past the school age.

Another part of *The subject index to periodicals* has been issued by the Library Association (English). This is Part 2, Modern European, of Division 1, Language and Literature. The title of the pamphlet of 122 pages, quarto, gives full information as to what ground is covered. The index is not altogether inclusive, but perhaps it was not intended to be so. There are many insertions referring to subjects in American periodicals, which perhaps could not be otherwise for the language of America is of the Modern European.

Twenty-four unusual stories for boys and girls, arranged and retold by Anna C. Tyler and issued by Harcourt-Brace, will appeal to the story-tellers of the country, not only for their intrinsic value but because they have been arranged and retold by Miss Tyler of the New York Public Library children's department for her own work.

Some division has been made under classes, such as Greek legends, American Indian legends, Mystery stories and Christmas stories, tho many of them are just interesting, good stories.

The illustrations were made by Maud and Miska Persham and are very artistic, distinctive and fascinating.

One of the most attractive publications of the past months is that sent out by Putnam, New England and Old England, in two volumes. The circumstances and the relations which have caused many places in both New England and Old England to have the same names are most fascinatingly told. The books are illustrated with colored plates and half-tones showing the places in both countries having the same names and adding immensely to the value of the volumes as well as to the pleasure in their possession. It is to be regretted that the price will be prohibitive in many cases for the small libraries whose clientele would enjoy the volumes, perhaps more than any one.

Plays for classroom interpretation, edited by Edwin Van B. Knickerbocker of the Childs high school in New York, will appeal to the librarians who are sometimes put to it to find material for their high school clientele. *Spreading the news, Allison's lad, Turtle dove, Will o' the wisp* and other favorites are included in the plays given. Notes to the instructors and directions for classroom work and interpretation are important parts of the volume.

#### Business Mathematics

**Elements of Bond Investment.** By A. M. Sakolski, Ph.D. Published by Ronald Press Company, New York.

A sound, non-technical treatise prepared by one who is obviously fitted for the somewhat difficult task he undertakes.

In well chosen words the author briefly, concisely and clearly conveys information which should be of interest and value to the fast growing number of seekers for investments.

The book enables the reader to form generally intelligent opinions without having to wade thru masses of excess detail.

If one inclines to be very critical he finds the volume somewhat superficial but that may be accounted for, in part at least, by the author's apparent desire to be brief rather than thoro. In the

main, it is excellent for the every-day reader.

**Mathematics of Finance.** By H. L. Reitz, Ph.D., University of Iowa; A. R. Cra-thorne, Ph.D., University of Illinois, and J. Chas. Reitz, A.B., Ohio State University. Published by Henry Holt & Co.

One must protest somewhat at the inferred object of the learned authors of this text-book to present something which should appeal to the "general business man," and his interest in the "beautiful" involved processes and complicated formulae of higher mathematics in their relation to finance.

While the university professor may delight in mental gymnastics, none of our acquaintance in business, except perhaps the actuary or most skilled accountant, finds either pleasure or practical benefit in avoiding short cuts and indulging in the tedious sport of elaborately solving unnecessary problems.

Maybe the student of commerce and business administration should struggle thru such a course. The benefit to be derived is certainly indirect if actual.

LLOYD E. WORK,  
Vice-president.

Elston, Allyn & Co.,  
Investment Brokers,  
Chicago.

#### International Relations

The *International Relations Series*, now appearing under the editorship of G. Lowes Dickinson, from the press of Harcourt, Brace and Company, is one which deserves considerable attention and publicity from librarians at this particular time. As stated in the preface of one of the books, the object of the series is twofold; "to disseminate knowledge of the facts of international relations and to inculcate the international rather than the nationalistic way of regarding them." The low price (\$1) at which the publishers have been able to issue the books is much to be commended.

If the entire series is up to the standard of that on "Causes of International War," written by the editor himself, they

bid fair to become classics of future international relationships.

In a little book of scarcely more than 100 pages, G. Lowes Dickinson has made a timely contribution to the discussion of international warfare. Basing his early arguments on prehistoric evidence, Mr Dickinson arrives at the conclusion that war is of comparatively recent origin in the history of mankind. Except among bees, ants and men, warfare against the kin of the pack is entirely unknown in the animal world. War in its present meaning, with all its militaristic accompaniments, such as the existence of a special fighting class and the growth of selfish patriotism, is a development brought about by growing economic needs.

Gradually as populations increased and human needs became more urgent, wars for subsistence developed. These speedily grew into wars for plunder. Wars for plunder led to the existence of a professional fighting class, highly trained in the arts of war and devoting much time and attention to the perfecting of new methods of killing. With this stage, reaching its full development in Feudal Europe, the way was open for the great international wars which have marred the history of modern times.

With a keen pen, Mr Dickinson analyzes the causes of modern wars and the selfish motives back of them. Modern wars, he says, are one and all caused by a desire for power, either political or economic, on the part of great states. A place in the sun, meaning good frontiers, room for colonial expansion, native populations upon which to draw for conscripts, markets for commercial products, coal fields, oil wells, more power than the next-door neighbor, these things the patriotic citizen of today is educated to believe the rightful and proper heritage of his country. If his country is in danger of losing any of these things, or if another country threatens to outstrip in the race for power, then the logical step, he is taught to believe, must be war.

The acquisition of new and hith-

erto unexploited countries is usually cloaked by the thieving country under a feigned desire to spread the blessings of civilization. "But," says Mr Dickinson, "never has any state made any conquest in order to benefit the people concerned, and not to benefit itself. . . . If it were otherwise, every state would be as pleased to see 'backward' races being civilized by other states as by themselves. . . . It is not the process of civilization in general which states admire and approve. It is the process of civilization by themselves."

In a searching chapter on the responsibilities for war, Mr Dickinson spares none of us. Tho the immediate responsibility may rest with diplomats and business interests, we, the people, are ultimately responsible. When war is over all we want is to forget it. "Instead of taking the opportunity, when the tension and strain is past, to look back in cold blood on all that has occurred, to trace causes and effects, to estimate evils and goods, they (the people) put all that behind them and turn to pleasure, to business, to domestic politics, to anything rather than learning the lesson of the experience thru which they have passed."

What is the remedy, then, for international war? The author finds the answer in education, the long and difficult way, but the only sure one. "Internationalists must contend with imperialists for the mind and soul of the peoples." Freedom of expression must be insured for teachers and histories must be rewritten in the light of the international ideal. School, press, platform, pulpit, all must be enlisted in the struggle. The answer is summed up in the concluding words of Mr Dickinson's book. "A generation of hard and sober work of this kind might conceivably revolutionize international policy. For it is only by convincing the reason of men that it is possible to impart a steady direction to their action. The way is laborious and difficult. But there is no other."

AMY WINSLOW.

## Library Schools

## Carnegie library school, Pittsburgh

Miss Nan Dorsey of the Public Health Service Nursing Association, Pittsburgh, lectured to the class on November 25.

The lectures on "Picture-books for the younger children" and "Illustrated editions for older boys and girls" have been given earlier than usual this year in order to associate them with the special library exhibits for October and November. These gave the students an excellent opportunity, not only to contrast the work of various modern illustrators, but to learn something of the development of book illustration in the last 300 years.

The school was delighted to welcome back one of the former students, Edith C. Moon, who stopped over in Pittsburgh for a few days on her way to take a position in Evanston, Illinois.

Edith Endicott, graduated in 1913 and since that time having experience in New York City, El Paso, Texas, and other libraries, has been appointed instructor in the school and in addition has charge of the apprentice class conducted by the library. Helen C. Moore, '06, was appointed reviser, October 1.

Edith C. Moon, '13, has accepted a position as head of the school libraries at Evanston, Illinois.

Lura F. Heilman, '12, has gone to Portland, Oregon, as librarian of District 6 of the United States Forest Service.

Rose M. Barber and E. Irene Franklin, '21, have been appointed assistants in the catalog department, Public library, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Myrtle C. Crockett, '21, has accepted a position in the catalog department, Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Mary J. Crowther, '21, has gone to the Public library, Gardner, Massachusetts, as branch librarian.

Grace D. Latta, '21, has been appointed cataloger in the University of Tennessee library, Knoxville, Tenn.

Ruth B. Miller, '21, is now children's librarian, St. Joseph, Missouri.

Mary C. Oliphant, '21, was appointed assistant, Lincoln School library, New York City.

Catherine L. Van Horn, '21, was appointed children's librarian, Mt. Washington branch, Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Claire U. Cable, Dorothy C. Cady and Elizabeth Whittaker, '21, have been appointed assistants in the children's department, Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Dilla L. Whittemore, '21, is assistant librarian in the Allegheny high school library,

NINA C. BROTHERTON,  
Principal.

## Drexel institute

Kate Elizabeth Nagle, '95, was married on June 18 to Charles Wesley Munger. They will reside in Los Angeles.

Elinor Wells, who has recently been an assistant in the Public Documents department of the Free library of Philadelphia, has been appointed to the position of first assistant in the Drexel Institute library. Miss Wells fills the vacancy created by the resignation of Katherine M. Trimble, '13, who went to Virgin Islands in August as assistant to the director of public welfare.

Dr Hollis P. Godfrey, president of Drexel institute since 1914, resigned, October 1. Dr Kenneth Gordon Matheson of the Georgia school of technology at Atlanta has been appointed to succeed Dr Godfrey and will assume charge after April 1, 1922.

## Los Angeles

The first special lecturers of the year were Milton J. Ferguson, librarian of the State library, who spoke on the county library system in California, and Dr George Watson Cole, librarian of the Huntington library. He described the growth of the Huntington collection, including the Caxtons and other incunabula and the rich collection of Americana, with the manuscript of Franklin's Autobiography, Washington's letters and other treasures.

Mrs W. B. Hunnewell of the southern branch of the University of California talked on Tone color, giving the class suggestions for the use of the voice which will be put into practice in Miss Haines' course in public speaking and in the weekly hour of reading aloud, where the students meet informally for the enjoyment of new books.

MARION HORTON,  
Principal.

**New York public library**

The library school observed Armistice day by setting aside the hour of 12 to 1 for a school assembly, at which a talk on the limitation of armament was given by Mrs Halsey W. Wilson. Mrs Wilson dwelt upon armament as one of the irritating factors in the delicately balanced international situations with which the world has to do today, and urged popular interest and effort with a view to bringing public opinion to bear upon those who are responsible for relations between governments. Following the meeting, a letter was directed to the members of the American delegation to the conference on limitation of armament in the name of the students and faculty of the school, urging measures which would make war more remote.

Immediately following his return to New York after attending five annual state library conferences in the Middlewest, Frederick G. Melcher addressed the juniors at the school, giving his observations of the conferences and telling of the extent to which libraries and other agencies of book distribution seem to be working in harmony over the country. On the afternoon of November 9, Miss Caroline Hewins visited the school, giving her paper entitled "Books of my own childhood", and being a guest at tea after her lecture.

Members of the junior class have again assisted the principal in preparing a report on the college library news of the year just passed, for presentation at the annual conference of eastern college libraries at Columbia university on the Saturday following Thanksgiving day. Under assignment, the students have examined and digested the notes and articles in the various professional and other publications relating to college library activity, and have gathered much material of interest.

The junior class recently elected as its president, Mrs Veva D. Phelps of La Grange, Indiana; as vice-president, George W. Bergquist of New York,

and as secretary-treasurer, Miss Janet Doe of New York.

ERNEST J. REECE,  
Principal.

**Pratt institute**

The class of 1922 has elected the following officers: President, Miss Cornelia B. Doherty, of the staff of the Silas Bronson library, Waterbury, Conn.; vice-president, Miss Margie M. Helm, of the State normal school at Bowling Green, Kentucky; secretary, Miss Sarah F. Barry, Ottawa, Canada; treasurer, Miss Ellen M. Child, Atlantic City, N. J.

The course of visiting lecturers began on November 1; the first speaker being, as usual, Dr Frank P. Hill, who told the class of the Brooklyn public library. The following week, Miss Sarah B. Askew of the New Jersey state commission, gave an inspiring talk on the "Power of the book" and later entertained the students at an informal story hour where they became acquainted with the celebrated "Chick-en" and the equally famous "Sucker".

The annual reception given by the Graduates' association to the incoming class was held on Thursday evening, November 3, in the north class-room. Miss Julia F. Carter, the president, introduced a delightful innovation in the person of Frederic G. Melcher of the *Publishers' Weekly* who read selections from Vachel Lindsay, Edna St. Vincent Millay and T. A. Daly.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE,  
Vice-director.

**St. Louis public library**

The school opened, September 22, with an enrollment of 21 regular students, two from Iowa, one each from Illinois, Indiana and Oklahoma, one from Kristiania, Norway, and the rest from Missouri. Ten members of the class have had previous library experience, including the student from Norway who had worked three months in the Riksarkivet and one and one-half years in the Deichmanske bibliotek, Kristiania, Norway.

**Simmons college**

The annual questionnaire of the library school went out on October 20 to our full active list of some three hundred women. This includes not only the graduates, but those who have taken special courses.

As "Simmons girls" are scattered as far as Hawaii and China there has not yet been time for 100 per cent to answer, but 90 per cent of the postcards are back, giving exact information as to positions and salaries.

We made a request this year for photographs and for information as to anything in the way of study, travel, or special achievement, the result being that our picture collection has gained, and that the letters which have followed the postcards have been of exceptional interest.

Daphne Damon, for instance, told of six months of service in the A. L. A. library at Paris, just before it was turned over to the French, and of a month's substituting at Coblenz.

Emma Williamson mentioned two months spent this summer in the U. S. Public Health service hospital at New Haven.

Mary Raymond spoke of her year's study in London, and an unusual number reported travel abroad, one even conducting tours herself, and penetrating as far as the South Seas, and one, at least, dared an airplane flight.

Many "saw America first" and did not neglect library visiting by the way, as attested by the postcards of library buildings and descriptions of the libraries sent by Idelle Tapley and others.

Not a few sent programs of library meetings at which they had assisted. Several, we were especially interested to hear, were active in public affairs beyond their own libraries, for instance, Mabel McCarnes, librarian of Peddie Institute, Hightstown, New Jersey, is on the library board of the town library, and Inez Bowler, whose position is in the University of Maine library, is a member of the Library committee of the Orono public library.

There were accounts, too, of work "within the walls" including one which said, "The most interesting new duty that has come to me is the cataloging of the books in Russian, Servian, Modern Greek, Armenian and Yiddish".

Until full returns are in, accurate statements can not be made in regard to salaries.

However, of those in so far, 126 have reported increases of from \$40 to \$850 over our latest information about them. The average increase of this 126 is over \$200.

As many of the others had reported in the same sense within a few months there has evidently been a very general upward trend since last year's questionnaire.

JUNE RICHARDSON DONNELLY,  
Director.

**Syracuse university**

The library school opened September 12, registration showing a gratifying increase over last year of 50 per cent, and students of unusually interesting personnel. Since that date the class has been augmented by the addition of two members of the Syracuse Public Library staff, who are entered for special work.

A series of general lectures for cultural purposes has been planned to take place Thursday afternoons throughout the year. This series was happily inaugurated with a stereopticon lecture on France by M. Guilleton of the Romance language department, assisted at the lantern by Mlle. Vromet of Paris, who is teaching this year in the same department. Explanations in French between the lecturer and the assistant gave a pleasant touch of local color to an unusually interesting and profitable hour.

In the first library trip of the year, Miss Doane and Miss Stewart conducted the junior class thru the various departments of the Syracuse public library.

Miss Eleanor Duncan, editor of the *Library Journal*, was a welcome visitor at the University library and the library school, September 17.

**Wester Reserve university**

November 11, 1921, was a significant day in the history of this university since on that day President Charles F. Thwing formally resigned from the presidency and became president emeritus. President Thwing has always shown so great an interest in professional training, both in his effort to raise the standards of the schools already established and in his open-minded attitude toward new professional training projects, that these departments will have special reason to regret the close of his period of active university service.

On November 9, the degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred on Ferdinand Foch, Marshal of France, in the Amasa Stone chapel. The Library school was represented at this ceremony by members of its faculty and the officers of the class. This special exercise, together with those in honor of President Thwing, made the week a memorable one to the entire student body.

The following graduates have recently accepted the positions indicated:

Juliet A. Henderson, '08, temporary position as catalog librarian, Engineering library, Columbia university.

Lillian M. Patterson, '10, reference librarian, Mt. Union College library, Alliance.

Mary K. Marshall, '14, classifier, Public library, Detroit, Mich.

Stella R. Glasgow, '15, librarian, Ft. Sheridan, Ill.

Marguerite E. Eldridge, '18, librarian, North branch, Public library, East Cleveland.

Ida W. Brigham, '19, reference assistant, Public library, Council Bluffs, Ia.

Helen U. Ginsburg, '21, cataloger, Public library, Muskogee, Okla.

THIRZA E. GRANT,  
Acting Director.

A course in library science is being given by the University of Buffalo and work began this year with 34 new students. These, in addition to the class of last year which is continuing, make 50 candidates for a certificate. Besides New York state, Pennsylvania, Wyoming, Ontario, China and Russia are represented.

The Ontario library school will conduct its winter term, September 6—December 6, in the Reference library of Toronto. The attendance this year was limited to 30 and for this reason an entrance examination was held for about 50 applicants. This will permit more intensive, practical training. All the instructors are persons who are engaged in library work every day and they, with the real laboratories provided by the Public library of Toronto, lead to great expectations of success.

The fourth year of the Indianapolis training course opened on October 10, with an enrollment of 13 members and with prospects of at least three new members later on, who will enter to complete work necessarily interrupted last year. The course has been slightly reorganized and a plan is being worked out to allow for more varied practice work for those members of the class who have already received appointments on the staff.

**Library Coöperation**

A free exhibit of the film "Black Beauty" was recently given at the south division of the Milwaukee public library; the picture was shown seven times in two days and brought to the library over 4200 people—a valuable bit of publicity work. The library will also be advertised by furnishing the song leaflets for Fathers and Sons Week; on the back of each leaflet is printed a list of books appropriate for the week, with a note about the library, and speakers at the banquets have agreed to refer to it.

This fall, for the first time, the Extension department of the library has had the full coöperation of the parochial schools of the city. There are about 50 Catholic schools in the city and county of Milwaukee; the recent appointment of a priest as general superintendent has made it possible for the library to get in touch with them all. Since September 10, every eighth grade of the city and county Catholic schools has made a visit to the library for instruction in its scope and use.

### Library of the League of Nations\*

The library of the League of Nations is located in the Hotel National, a building situated on the shores of Lake Geneva and from which can be seen the snow mountains with the peak of Mont Blanc.

A large proportion of the books, at present, consist of volumes on legal questions, with numerous collections of treaties and authorities on economic conditions, finance and banking all over the world. A good collection of periodicals and recent documents are in place. The



THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS LIBRARY, GENEVA. *Photo by Jullien, Geneva.*

The library occupies what was formerly the *salle à manger*, the largest and most magnificent room of the hotel. It is 100x50 feet and 30 feet high. The ceilings are covered with paintings of delicate colors and the walls are covered with thick glass panels. Gorgeous chandeliers hang at intervals from the ceiling. The rich carpets, chairs, tables, etc., formed part of the bargain when the hotel was bought in its entirety for the offices of the Secretariat.

\*From article by Miss M. E. Day in *The Library Assistant*, 15:212-15.

various governments send all their publications as soon as they are issued. The Library of Congress catalog cards give entries relating to legal, social, political, economic and financial matters in all languages, grouped under author and subject. There are dictionaries of most of the languages common to international relations.

The members of the staff are chosen from various nationalities, consisting of American, British, Norwegian, French, Swiss, Polish and Italian. The librarian is Miss Florence Wilson, formerly of the Columbia University library staff.

## Department of School Libraries

## The Purpose and Function of a High School Library

Adeline Cooke, high school librarian, Kaukauna, Wis.

James Russell Lowell once said, "The better part of every man's education is that which he gives himself, and it is for this that a good library should furnish the opportunity and the means."

It is easy to let one's thoughts soar when thinking of the real purpose behind a high school library. There is the place to secure a contact between the pupils and their best life weapons, books. Those who come for pleasure may be led to remain for information; and, likewise, those who seek mere information may find there are pleasurable books also.

The taste for good books growing in each pupil is the end toward which we all work. The great personalities our students meet thru their reading, and meeting, take unto themselves as friends, will comfort them and inspire them all their lives. When one boy told me he had read Ben Hur five times and considered it the best book he had ever read, I felt as tho he had made a good friend. A man in middle life said, "I can never be grateful enough that just at the right time in my life, I read Ivanhoe. Ahead of me, all unsuspected, were some sore temptations and I might not have withstood them had it not been for the ideals of knightly chivalry and devotion to noble womanhood which that book gave me."

Some of the boys discover for themselves that "there is no frigate like a book to take one leagues away." I have in mind two brothers who came to our school from some smaller place where they evidently had not had much chance to read. The older one, in particular, a great tall fellow, began at the bottom and worked up. It was hard not to smile when he took "Little Lord Fauntleroy" and others as young. But he soon finished those and began on older ones. They seemed fairly to devour everything we had and enjoy it immensely.

It is a good thing for us to keep our great purpose in mind all the time, that our libraries may function properly and efficiently.

As to the function, we will look for it in this little story.

Once upon a time there was a librarian who came home from a wonderful vacation and began upon her fifth year of labor in her little high school library which she had created. And she said to herself, "After all the summer's excitement, how can I stay here doing the same things over and over? I must find me something new." So she cast about for something to make variety.

About this time there came the September number of the *English Journal*, and immediately her eye fell upon the title, "The history of the Ugly Duckling library." As she read she became inspired and vowed to herself, "I will find mine enjoyment right here in mine own library. This library will I make mighty in its influence. It has served a good purpose heretofore but this year will I make it serve doubly well. It shall be the center of the whole school."

Then she reflected; and finally she said to herself, "The other librarian consulted students. I, too, will ask the English classes of the juniors and seniors what they desire in the library which we do not have." And she did, and they responded with many foolish, but also many wise suggestions.

The first thing she did was to rearrange the furniture in order to put the reading-table in a sunny, pleasant spot. Whereupon certain of the students said, "We like this very much. Now may we put the books we use most often on shelves that are easy to reach?" for the library is exceeding small in dimension and the table takes up much room. So the boys moved the books around until all was very convenient.

Then said the librarian, "We have a new teacher of manual training who seems very willing to use his talents for other people. Perhaps he will cause a

magazine rack to be made." And lo! in a short time the library possessed what it had tried for four years to get and the library looked much more orderly.

Next she said, "In this beautiful autumn weather, I will decorate with bittersweet berries and pictures of lovely trees dressed in reds and yellows."

One day she saw how she could put a short shelf under the bulletin board whereon she could put attractive books that otherwise might be overlooked, and this, too, the students appreciated.

And it came to pass that in a very short time the librarian noticed that more and more students were using the library every day, and that a goodly share of the books were in circulation. Thereupon she made haste to send in an extra order for new books, that all might be supplied.

After a little time the head of the English department came to consult with her about the Wisconsin Reading Circle work, which was required of every student taking a course in English. And she said, "Some students do well and read the best books, but others pick out little thin books on which to report, and receive just as much credit as those who read more. Can we not bring about a level whereby all will read an equal amount?" And thereupon it was decided to combine a system of points or credits with the Reading Circle, and they posted the following requirement: Each student must report a definite number of points—freshmen, 30; sophomores, 36; juniors, 42; seniors, 48. There must be at least four of the six classes of books represented. And the books of the list were graded according to their worth, the average being five points per book. And immediately there was a demand for books that brought more than five points, such as *Kenilworth*, *Les Misérables*, *David Copperfield*, *Twenty years at Hull House*, and *The promised land*. And the librarian and the English teacher nodded their heads in approval.

One day a shipment of new books arrived, attractive books for outside reading work, and the librarian said, "This

is the day on which I will teach freshmen how to open new books," and she made arrangements with their English teacher to bring the classes to the library for a few minutes at the beginning of the period. And they enjoyed opening these books for they knew they were helping the librarian. All that day she was besieged by these same freshmen who asked when they might draw certain of the new books. So she made haste to have them ready as soon as possible.

Now it was about this time in the fall when the student council was reorganized, and they cast about for some channel for their energies. And one said, "Our librarian generally has many suggestions at hand. Let us ask her." And she was glad for she had been wanting someone to put on a Better Speech campaign in Better Speech week so that she could assist. And she gave them magazines containing campaign suggestions, and also a play called "The salvation of Jemmy Slang," which she had purchased the year before from Robert J. Fry of the Lewis and Clark high-school of Spokane.

And the student council planned with the English teachers and they worked out a splendid program for the week. And as they planned they said, "Why should we not extend this campaign beyond our school to the whole community, and cause people to be interested in good speech and in the school at the same time? We will have a public program and give our play and make some money for the school. Our library has good reference books, but we will buy some books purely for pleasure reading."

And it came to pass that the program was a great success and the proceeds made a goodly sum. And with part of the money they bought some books with beautiful illustrations made by Maxfield Parrish and other noted artists: and part of the money they laid away for future use.

And one day, soon after the program, a gentleman who had become interested in the students' efforts to obtain new books, sent word to the librarian that if

she desired he would give to her Wilson's History of the American people, and she was delighted for she had wanted this a long time but had not been able to afford it.

Whereupon she sent an appreciative note to the newspaper and lo! another gentleman telephoned saying that he was moving to a distant city and if the librarian would call she might choose certain of his books for the use of the school. And when the students heard of these generous offers they said one to another, "I have a book that perhaps I could bring." And thus a goodly number of books was acquired beyond the number the school board provided.

Now it had been the secret ambition of the librarian to have an individual book plate for the high school books, so one day she decided that the time was ripe for the proposition and she made a speech to the assembled students. She spoke of their new books and gift books, and asked them if they did not think that a library that had been so blessed should acquire dignity, and if an individual school mark was not only proper and fitting but also desirable. And she suggested that among their number some had artistic ability; that it was a high school student of a former class who had drawn the head of the Fox for the school annual and for the school rings, and could not a high school student of this generation draw a design appropriate for a book-plate—a design that should show perhaps a bit of history of the city or the origin of the city's name? And, by and by, after several consultations with the librarian and the teacher of art and others in general, one student achieved a very good piece of work, and henceforth the library books were adorned with this artistic mark of ownership.

And so the work went on, and the librarian who thought the year might be a dull repetition found something ever new and all engrossing, and it was a pleasure to her to see the influence of her little cramped up library spread—thru the children to their parents and the town. And it was like the shepherds of Italy who

can not drive the sheep from the barren spots to the green grass on the tops of the mountains, but must take the lambs in their arms and lead the way; the sheep quickly follow.

#### School Librarians Meeting

The fourth fall meeting of the New England school library association was held in the library at Springfield, Mass. on October 8, 1921. Miss Mary H. Davis presided.

Greeting was given by Marion F. Stibbs, librarian of the High-school of commerce of Springfield. The theme of the morning session was Practical problems.

Dr C. A. Cockayne of Springfield told of the plan for outside reading used in the Technical high-school.

Clara F. Palmer of the Chicopee high school told of a fine working school library, evolved under unfavorable conditions. The faculty members are in charge. A librarian from the Public library goes two afternoons a week to advise on the purchase of new books and library methods for caring for the books, charging them, etc. The librarian has organized a class of boys and girls to train them for assistants in the school library. To each department is assigned a table, where books or illustrative material for special work may be assembled. Every pupil is assigned to the library two periods a week. Miss Palmer called the library "a free agent in the dispensing of civilization."

Miss Florence G. Henry of the Springfield public library, outlined the instruction given by the Public library to all the schools in the city, beginning with the seventh grade, and to the pupils of the continuation schools. Miss Helen G. Bliss told of the lessons given high school students.

At the afternoon session, Miss Mary C. Richardson, librarian of the Normal school, Geneseo, N. Y., spoke on "The teacher's part." The reasons for a school library were summarized as follows: The modern methods of teaching

necessitate the use of more than one text. The school work of the child should be made as vital and interesting as possible. The child should be taught how to read. The child should be taught to use a library intelligently. The child should be trained in the reading habit and the library habit. The requirements of a well organized school library were detailed under the headings—Some one in charge who is really interested, the right kind of a room, and proper equipment. The use of bulletin boards, and exhibits of pictures, supplementary material of various kinds, and collections of autographs were suggested as means of stimulating the interest of pupils.

Dr Jesse B. Davis, supervisor of secondary education for Connecticut, spoke on "The Possibilities." He urged librarians to keep in mind the seven objectives of secondary education in order to make the library contribute in preparing boys and girls for life.

#### Petition for a U. S. Department of Education

The N. E. A. Press Service has sent out a facsimile copy of a petition which was presented to President Harding by a very distinguished committee headed by Miss Charl O. Williams, president of the N. E. A. Other members of the committee were Mrs Thomas G. Winter, president of the General Federation of women's clubs, and Mr A. Lincoln Filene, president of the national committee for a Department of Education. These representatives were presented to President Harding by the Honorable H. M. Towner of Iowa and Senator Thomas Sterling of South Dakota who are the sponsors of the education bill.

Mr Filene spoke especially in behalf of the business men of the nation, Mrs Winter spoke for the organized motherhood of the nation and Miss Williams spoke for the educational and labor organizations.

The petition represents the interests

of 27,000,000 school children and 700,000 school teachers.

#### A Library in Palestine.

*The New Palestine* of October 28 contains an interesting account of the Jewish national library in Jerusalem. This library has been in existence since 1892 and in 1920 was taken over by the Zionist organization in order to give the activities of the library wider scope and eventually to develop it into a university library in connection with the Hebrew university.

The library has now over 50,000 books and more than 1200 readers registered. The account notes the large number of books that have come from America and Germany. The library suffered during the war. A great number of volumes were lost, especially records containing lists of books lent out. The library received no newspapers from Europe and the number of readers decreased.

Since the library was taken over by the Zionist organization there has been a steadily increasing activity and interest in the library. The rooms are overcrowded and the readers occupy seats on the balcony and on the steps. The reading room is free to all but there is a small fee for circulation.

The library committee of the Zionist organization in America has been very active and more than 47 cases of books have been sent to the library. The question of funds is most pressing and the cost of books, transportation, etc. is greatly consuming the library's funds.

There are five employes including the directing librarian. The library now receives 100 newspapers and magazines from abroad.

Gertrude Davis, St. Louis '18, has been appointed librarian of the College library at the Central Missouri teacher's college, Warrensburg, Mo. Miss Davis was formerly reference librarian at State teacher's college, Peru, Neb.

## News from the Field

## East

Barbara Bolles, Simmons '16, was married in August to John R. Coiteux.

Donald K. Campbell, N. Y. P. L., '15-17 has been appointed librarian of the Public library at Haverhill, Mass.

Mildred Whittemore, Simmons '15, has accepted the position of reference librarian at the Radcliffe College library.

Helen Ruggles, Simmons '17, has been made a reference and catalog assistant at the Public library, Watertown, Massachusetts.

Miss Sarah Thomas, formerly army librarian at Fortress Monroe, Virginia has been appointed navy librarian of the U. S. Naval training station, Newport, R. I.

Joseph L. Wheeler, librarian of the Reuben McMillan library of Youngstown, Ohio, on an indefinite leave of absence which he is using in farm life at Benson, Vermont, has been appointed a member of the Public Library commission by Governor Hartness of Vermont.

On account of lack of funds, the public library of Hubbardston, Mass. will be closed on Monday nights. The schools find this a handicap. Miss Bertha L. Welch, principal of the Central school, said, "This is unfortunate as the public library is an auxiliary of the schools. Every teacher knows that the pupils who use the library stand the highest in their school work."

The first library for children in New Hampshire was opened recently in Nashua. The room of the main building has been outgrown for some time, having a registration of over 400 children many days last winter. The trustees this year have engaged a room in a part of town with a large juvenile population and have opened a branch for the use of children under junior high school age.

Miss Edna Ledger, who has been Boys' High School library in Brooklyn.

engaged in children's library work for more than two years, has been appointed librarian. The room has been made attractive and fitted with wall shelving and low chairs for the benefit of its patrons. A large number of new books were bought and about 200 more were received thru an appeal to the public for contributions. A beautiful clock was donated by a friend and good pictures and other wall decorations are expected from the friends of the movement.

## Central Atlantic

Margaret Barss, Simmons '16, has re-joined the staff of the Public library, Rochester, New York.

Mildred Noé Johnson, N. Y. P. L., 18-19, is assistant editor of *Safety Engineering*, New York City.

Esther Giblin, Pratt '16, has been appointed librarian of St. Francis college, Brooklyn.

Gertrude Clark, Simmons '21, is working on the organization of the Library School collection of the New York Public Library library school.

Isadore G. Mudge, reference librarian in Columbia university, has returned after an absence of five months spent in France and England.

Clara Gravez, Pratt '16, of the Cleveland public library, has been made assistant librarian of the Technical library of the New Jersey Zinc Company, Palmetto, Pa.

Leila G. Forbes, Pratt '11, librarian of the Randolph-Macon woman's college, Lynchburg, Virginia, has been made librarian of the State normal school at Montclair, N. J.

Lena G. Towsley, Pratt '13, recently librarian of the New York Bar Association library, has become children's librarian at the Public library of Everett, Washington.

Emily K. Colwell, B. L. S., '15, N. Y. S., has resigned her position at the Brownsville branch of the Brooklyn public library and is now on the staff of the Boys' High School library in Brooklyn.

Ruth E. McKinstry, Pratt '17, librarian of the World's Student Christian Federation, has been made assistant librarian of the New Jersey public library commission, Trenton, and will begin her new work on January 1.

By a typographical error, the number of volumes given as lent for home use in the Public library of East Orange, N. J., in the November columns, was incorrect. The circulation should be 251,234, instead of 51,234, as presented.

Thomas Lynch Montgomery, state librarian of Pennsylvania since 1903, has been appointed director of the Pennsylvania Historical society in Philadelphia. Rev George P. Donehoo, Coudersport, Pa., has been elected state librarian to succeed Mr Montgomery.

A public library, a branch of the Brooklyn public library, has been opened at Coney Island, New York, after an agitation of many years on the part of the civic organizations. The library was opened on November 4 with appropriate ceremonies and has a collection of 15,000 books. Henrietta G. Tuttle is the librarian in charge.

Julia L. Sauer has been appointed head of the children's room and extension work at the Public library, Rochester, New York. Miss Sauer is a graduate of the University of Rochester and after a year's service in the public library in that city, she took a year's course in the New York State library school. This was followed by study in the Cleveland public library under the direction of Miss Caroline Burnite of the children's department. On the completion of her technical training, Miss Sauer returned to the Rochester public library as branch librarian, which position she left to become Mr Yust's secretary. Here she came in contact with every phase of the work of the Rochester public library. Miss Sauer also conducted the apprentice classes for the training of the junior members of the library staff.

#### Central

Sophia J. Lammers, N. Y. P. L., '11-12, has been appointed librarian of the Public library, Mankato, Minn.

Eleanor Moody, assistant librarian in the Public library, Keokuk, Iowa, resigned last month to join the staff of the Public library at Davenport.

Elizabeth Porter Clarke has resigned as librarian of the Public library of Jacksonville, Ill., and accepted a position as organizer with the Iowa state library commission at Des Moines.

Amalia Aicher, who has been the librarian of the Public library, Michigan City, Indiana, for 24 years, has resigned on account of poor health.

Mary B. Snyder, Drexel, has been elected to the vacancy.

The friends of Miss Lucy Curtiss, for many years in the Wisconsin library school, and previously in the Wisconsin library commission, will regret to learn of the death of her mother, in Madison, December 13. Mrs Curtiss had been an invalid for many years.

A note from Miss Mary E. Dow, librarian of the East Side public library of Saginaw, Michigan, says:

"Our building is progressing finely and by spring we shall have a real library. The circulation for the year ending June 30, was 107,552, an increase of 15,882. The new year is beginning with a boom and the percentage of increase is over 29 per cent."

Della Northey, a graduate of the University of Illinois library school and a former county library worker in Oregon and California, joined the staff of the Indiana public library commission, October 1, to take charge of school library organization and the work with state institution libraries.

With the removal of the Field museum to the loop district at Twelfth street, another valuable scientific library has been added to the down-town circle of Chicago libraries. The Field museum contains about 70,000 valuable volumes on

anthropology, botany, geology and zoology. The museum also published the results of original research conducted under its auspices, thru which has been built up a considerable number of pamphlets. Miss Elsie Lippincott is the librarian.

The Public library of Kalamazoo, Michigan, had an illustrated story covering a half page in the *Kalamazoo Gazette* for Sunday, November 13. The headings and break lines were very "catchy," and even to a librarian sounded most interesting. One of the divisions carried the statement that the Kalamazoo children's room was the first to be established in Michigan and the fourth in the United States, being preceded by Brookline, Mass.; Minneapolis, Minn., and Circleville, Ohio. San Francisco and Buffalo opened children's rooms the same year. Then followed Denver, Colorado; Boston, Mass.; New Haven, Conn.; Pittsburgh, Pa.; Detroit, Mich.; Brooklyn, N. Y.; Omaha, Neb.; Milwaukee, Wis., and Seattle, Wash.

Mrs Jennie Thornburg Jennings who was the assistant to Dr W. Dawson Johnston as librarian of the Public library of St. Paul, has been appointed acting librarian until a permanent appointment is made.

Mrs Jennings was appointed assistant librarian in September, 1919. She has had a varied career, both in school and library service. She is the author of much professional writing of worth and is an authority on classification and cataloging.

The Des Moines public library opened a third branch library on November 10 in a store-room, 18x63 ft., leased for a period of five years by the library. There are 110 feet of shelving along the walls, with accommodations for adults and children besides the librarian's desk. The walls are in a French grey and the windows have been fitted with curtains of heavy crash, having a bright-colored border. A few well chosen pictures are on the walls and flowers and potted plants gave a fe-

tive air to the room on the opening day.

The afternoon was devoted to story hours for the children and they filled the room three times to listen to stories told by Miss Linn Jones, children's librarian, and Miss Olivia McCabe, librarian of Highland Park branch.

In the evening, there was a formal program for the older people. Mr C. S. Worth, president of the Library Board, presided and gave a short talk. Mr W. F. Riley, also of the Library Board, presented the branch library to the district. Worcester Warren, assistant principal of East high school, responded for the community and spoke especially of the educational value of the library. A group of high school girls sang songs. Miss Edna Giesler, librarian of the new branch, was introduced and the program was concluded by a talk on the use of the library by Grace D. Rose.

#### South

Beatrice Brown, Simmons '18, was married to Donald Erwin Ingham on September 1, 1921. Mr and Mrs Ingham are living at Yuma, Arizona.

Bertha Blackburn, Illinois '21, is head cataloger in the library of the University of Tennessee, going from the catalog department at the University of Illinois.

Ruth G. Gentles, B. L. S., N. Y. S., '21, has been appointed assistant librarian at Marshall college, Huntington, Va., for the remainder of the school year.

Miss J. Maud Campbell, for a number of years connected with the Massachusetts library commission, has accepted the position of librarian of the Jones memorial library of Lynchburg, Va. This is a public library with a generous endowment and has been expanding both in size and service for a number of years. The time has come for a reorganization and a further expansion that will meet the growing needs. Miss Jones will begin her work in January.

Miss Caryl Coman of Portland, Oregon, was appointed librarian at the Na-

***My dear Librarian:***

Do you know that we are trying to make just the kind of books you would make if you were in our place?

Do you know that 82% of the books we published last year were approved by the Booklist?

If we could sit down and talk with you we believe you would be interested in what we have done and in our plans for the future.

As we cannot do this everywhere won't you ask us to send you our new descriptive catalogue?

The following are a few of our recent publications.

**Furniture of the Pilgrim Century**

*By Wallace Nutting*

**A Day in a Colonial Home**

*By Della R. Prescott, edited by John Cotton Dana*

**The Pilgrim Spirit**

*By George P. Baker*

**Essays in Biblical Interpretation**

*By Henry Preserved Smith*

**The Life Indeed**

*By John F. Genung*

**The Liberal College**

*By Alexander Meiklejohn*

**The Spirit of the Common Law**

*By Roscoe Pound*

**Classical Associations of Places in Italy**

*By Frances E. Sabin*

**Marshall Jones Company**

212 SUMMER STREET, BOSTON

val training station, San Francisco, California, and later transferred to the U. S. Marine barracks, Paris Island, S. C., to succeed Miss Dayton. Miss Coman was fortunate enough to make her trip East thru the Panama Canal on the flagship of the Atlantic fleet, the U. S. S. Great Northern.

**West**

Elizabeth Stewart, who resigned from the Omaha public library to enter the New York library school and who later served two years overseas, has again joined the staff of the Omaha public library.

Raymond McCoy, for several years connected with the Useful Arts room of the Cincinnati public library and later camp librarian at Chickamauga, Tenn., began work as librarian of Creighton college, Omaha, October 1.

Ellen Hedrick, chief classifier of the University of California library, is enjoying a year's leave of absence from the University library and is working with Mary E. Downey in library extension work in North Dakota. Her address is Public library commission, Bismarck, North Dakota.

Gertrude Clark, formerly of the Detroit public library and later of the Council Bluffs library, was engaged in September to act as an assistant in the High-School of Commerce library in Omaha. Miss May Ingles is the librarian of this school and the efforts of herself and staff have made this one of the best high school libraries in the Middle-West.

**Pacific coast**

Ella McDowell, Simmons '14, has been appointed municipal reference librarian of the Public library, Seattle.

Ruth Fleming, N. Y. P. L., '15-16, is librarian of the Humboldt state teachers college, Arcata, California.

Elizabeth Lowry, N. Y. S., '14, librarian of the A. K. Smiley public library, Redlands, Cal., married Fred-

erick W. Sanborn of Riverside, Cal., October 27.

Alice Charlton, Simmons '12, is on leave of absence from the Board of Education library, Minneapolis, until next July, and is to spend her time in the University of California library, Berkeley.

Marcus Skarstedt, formerly of Illinois, is a member of the faculty of the California State Polytechnic school at San Luis Obispo. Mr Skarstedt is also the director of the library of the school and is especially interested in building up its contents into a strong working library on vocational training.

E. Ruth Rockwood, head of the reference department of the Library Association of Portland, is on a four months' leave of absence, visiting libraries in the East and Middle-West. Mildred Davis, N. Y. S. '16-17, is acting head of the department in her absence.

Anna K. Fossler, N. Y. S. '01, who has been head of the technical department of the Library Association of Portland for the past five years, resigned in October. Miss Fossler goes to Los Angeles where she has accepted the position of first assistant in the library of the south branch of the University of California.

Maude L. Mast, formerly librarian of the Twelfth naval district with headquarters at Mare Island, Cal. has been transferred as library organizer in the new Eleventh naval district with headquarters at Santiago, California.

Miss Rebecca Day, formerly librarian at Longmont and later librarian of the naval hospital, Fort Lyon, Colorado, has been transferred to succeed Miss Mast as librarian at Mare Island.

A new library building, built and dedicated as a memorial to the heroism of those who have died in the United States wars, was opened at La Jolla, California,

## Library Book Binding

HOLLISTON Library Buckram has been recognized for years as the most durable cloth for book binding, and consequently has been adopted by Librarians and Library Binders as the standard cloth for re-binding.

The work of the following Library Binders and others that use Holliston Book Cloth may be recommended for dependable quality and genuine service.

F. J. Barnard Company, Boston, Mass.  
105 Federal Street.

Burgmeier Book Bindery, Chicago, Ill.,  
1855 Milwaukee Avenue.

Chivers Bookbinding Co., Brooklyn, N. Y.  
911 Atlantic Avenue.

Democrat Printing Company, Madison, Wis.  
G. D. Emerson, Philadelphia, Pa.  
209 North 11th St.

David Farquhar, North Cambridge Junction,  
Mass.

Foster & Futernick, San Francisco, California.  
39 Battery Street.

H. R. Hunting Company, Springfield, Mass.  
William G. Johnston Co., Pittsburgh, Pa.  
1130 Ridge Avenue.

MacDonald & Meyer, New York City, N. Y.,  
1907 Park Avenue.

Mutual Library Bindery, Syracuse, N. Y.

National Library Bindery, Cleveland, Ohio,  
Springfield, Mass., and Atlanta, Ga.

Rademacker & Sons Co., Newark, N. J.  
Chester Avenue and Orator Street.

Joseph Ruzicka, Baltimore, Md., 106 Clay St.  
P. B. Sanford, Boston, Mass., 68 Bedford St.

Schnabel Bookbinding Co., Indianapolis, Ind.,  
234 West 10th Street.

Universal Bindery & Library Supply Co.,  
Springfield, Mass.

Universal Publishing Syndicate, Philadelphia,  
Pa., 1215-20 North 13th Street.

F. A. Wagenfuhr Bookbinding Co., St. Louis,  
Mo., 217-219 North Third Street.

Wagenvoord & Company, Lansing, Michigan.

Andrew G. Wirth, Pittsburgh, Pa.,  
302 Sandusky St., N. S.

Henry N. Yerger, Philadelphia, Pa.,  
154 North 11th Street.



*The*  
**Holliston Mills**  
Norwood, Mass.

BOSTON, 531 ATLANTIC AVENUE  
NEW YORK, 2 W. 13th STREET

October 11. A gift of approximately \$50,000 was given as a special contribution in memory of her brother who died in the Civil war by Miss Ellen B. Scripps. The remainder of the money was subscribed by residents of La Jolla to the amount of more than \$10,000.

The Seattle public library has raised the fee for the reservation of books from one cent to five cents, effective October 12. The measure is one of many schemes for economy made necessary by decreased funds and an inadequate staff. Its purpose is to limit the number of reserves to books actually needed and to more nearly cover the cost of the clerical work involved. The average number of reserves has dropped from 88 to 64 daily at the central building since the change was made.

The schools division of the Seattle public library holds an afternoon reception each year for the new teachers in the public schools as a means of acquainting them with the resources of the library. This year's reception was held, October 22, and was attended by about 60 teachers.

Catherine M. Lanning, Pittsburgh '19, formerly a children's librarian in Philadelphia, has been appointed children's librarian in the University branch of the Seattle public library.

Ann E. Hall, Pittsburgh '11, employed in the Seattle public library, 1911-17, has returned to become children's librarian of the Yesler branch.

One of our 100% Americans wrote us for the books by Dr Few Men Chew, the noted Chinaman.

The annual report of the Pasadena public library shows a growth of 23 per cent over the preceding year and 70 per cent over two years ago. The total circulation of books was 542,500, a per capita circulation of 11 volumes. The number of volumes is 78,813.

An exhibit of abused books was made, hoping it have an influence in decreasing the misuse of books. The most original exhibit was of books on travel. On a world map were inserted colored

flags with names of interesting books whose background was that special locality.

A most valuable course of lectures was given, once a month during the winter, to the public by Miss Helen E. Haines on the following subjects:

Books to read aloud, Desirable books for Christmas presents, Chronicles of America series, Standard novels and American life in fiction.

A valuable addition was a gift of 1200 photographs of museum pieces in the Museum of fine arts of Boston.

Among the picture exhibits held were prints by International print makers, oils by California artists and rare prints of Japanese masters.

The staff heard talks by authorities on legislative matters, literature and art, as well as discussions of technical library matters.

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**For Sale**—One set of *History Teacher's Magazine*. Address, West Virginia University Library, Morgantown, W. Va.

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**Wanted**—A librarian for industrial town. Must have training school certificate and some experience. Salary \$1440. Address, Librarian, Steubenville Public Library, Steubenville, Ohio.

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**Wanted**—Two catalogers with library school training and some experience in classification and subject-heading work. College degree desirable. Initial salary from \$1400 to \$1600 depending upon qualifications. The Cleveland public library, Cleveland, Ohio.

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The Hackley public library, Muskegon, Michigan, has a large quantity of unbound duplicate periodicals, such as, *Harper's*, *Scribner's*, *Ladies' Home Journal*, *North American Review*, *Outlook*, and many others, in some cases extending back to 1870. It will be glad to dispose of these at a reasonable price.

Any library interested should send a list of its wants promptly.

